

Sharon K. Williams, District 1  
Junior Watkins, District 2  
Lynn Scott Pearson, District 3  
Chairperson-Andrew A. Rand, District 4  
Rachael Parker District 5  
G. Allen Mayer, District 6  
James C. Dillon, District 7  
Phillip Salzer, District 8  
Michael Phelan, District 9



Andrew A. Rand - Chairperson  
R. Steve Sonnemaker, County Clerk

Vice-Chairperson -Stephen M. Morris, District 10  
Mary Ardapple, District 11  
Robert Baietto, District 12  
James T. Fennell, District 13  
Brian Elsasser, District 14  
Carol Trumpe, District 15  
Brad Harding, District 16  
Thomas H. O'Neill, III, District 17  
Paul Rosenbohm, District 18

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**PEORIA COUNTY BOARD  
MINUTES  
Thursday, January 08, 2015  
6:00 PM**

County Courthouse • 324 Main Street • County Board Room 403 • Peoria, Illinois 61602  
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**CALL TO ORDER**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL BY THE COUNTY CLERK**

Attendance was taken with the Roll Call-Pro voting system, and the following members of the Board were present: Ardapple, Baietto, Dillon, Elsasser, Fennell, Harding, Mayer, Morris, Parker, Pearson, Phelan, Rand, Rosenbohm, Salzer, Trumpe, Watkins and Williams, with O'Neill absent.

Chairman Rand noted that O'Neil was under the weather.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Approval of December 11, 2014 County Board Minutes
- Approval of December 18, 2014 County Board Special Meeting

Watkins moved for approval of the minutes, Baietto seconded. The minutes were approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

**II. CITIZENS' REMARKS**

There were no citizens' remarks.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

- C1.** The Treasurer report consisting of the Bank and CD's Portfolio for the month of November 2014 and Revenue & Expenditure Reports for the month of October 2014.



- C2.** A resolution from your Transportation Committee recommending approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Peoria County and the City of Peoria for maintenance and improvement of County Highways within the City of Peoria.
- C3.** A resolution from your Transportation Committee recommending approval of a Federal Agreement between Peoria County and IDOT to reconstruct the intersection of Old Galena Road and State Street in the amount of \$771,000.00.
- C4.** A resolution from your Transportation Committee recommending approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement between Peoria County and IDOT for the installation of traffic signals at Koerner/Trigger Roads and US 150 in the amount of \$40,000.00.
- C5.** A resolution from your Management Services Committee recommending approval of the bid of Digital Copy Systems, Peoria, IL, for the rental of refurbished copier equipment for a period of 60 months, with a provision to extend month-to-month until each unit is replaced.
- C6.** A resolution from your Management Services Committee recommending approval of an Agreement with Peoria County Veterinary Medical Association for veterinary services for Peoria County Animal Protection Services (PCAPS) for one year with options to renew annually for up to five years.
- C7.** A resolution from your Finance and Legislative Committee recommending approval of an appropriation for Series 2014 Refunding Debt Certificates as attached.
- C8.** Chairman Appointments
- Mayer moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Fennell seconded. The Consent Agenda was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

#### **IV. ZONING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS**

##### **EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pending Litigation**

Morris moved to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation and Mayer seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call of 17 ayes.

Chairman Rand noted that there will be a second executive session after other business has concluded. This session is being done to accommodate attorneys from Chicago.



The board went back into regular session.

1. Case 044-14-U, Patricia Grove. A Special Use as required in Section 20-5.2.2.1.c of the Unified Development Ordinance. This section allows for a special use for a Mobile Home on individually-owned parcels of land, subject to the provisions of Section 7-9 ("Mobile Homes") of the Unified Development Ordinance. The petitioner would like to continue the use of her mobile home at this location. The parcel is located in Princeville Township. The Zoning Board of Appeals recommends approval with restrictions. The Land Use Committee concurs.

Fennell moved to approve the ordinance and Dillon seconded. The ordinance passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

2. A resolution from your Finance and Legislative Committee recommending approval of Peoria County 2015 Legislative program.

Mayer moved to approve the resolution and Ardapple seconded. Mayer pointed out that the actual legislative summary should be at everyone's desk. This includes slight changes from what was at committee. The resolution is identical. However, both the City and County had last minute items that were important to have added.

Salzer questioned the County Request - Co.-Employer Relationship of County Boards item under Requests for Direct Sponsorship. He said this is asking for more power for the county to step into some of these offices, as he understands it. He questioned why the Board is asking for more power when most of the elected officials have already given up some rights and the board controls the budget. He asked if this would make the board assume some of their responsibilities. He proposed eliminating this item. Chairman Rand asked Dillon if this had come from the previous committee he had chaired. Dillon said this is the first time it has made the legislative agenda. Ms. Curtis Luther said that it was a board member request. Salzer made a motion to eliminate this item; Williams seconded.

Morris said he believes the term co-employer deals specifically with the numerous discussions the Board has had regarding head count. He said that the Board has been told repeatedly that they set the budget for the various elected officials and their silos of responsibilities, but we have no say what happens within silos. He believes the purpose was to create a statutory co-employer relationship so that when there is a reduction in force, the Board would have a say over backfilling; making sure that once a position is eliminated, it wouldn't be filled. Ms. Curtis Luther clarified that Morris had requested this item.

Phelan said that a number of issues have arisen where an elected official may take disciplinary action without the advice of County Administration which could lead to unfair labor practices or bad policy. There have been plenty of instances where the County Board and County Administration would have appreciated being a part of employee related matters. Ms. Curtis Luther said the County only has statutory control over the



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budget. The County currently has a co-employer relationship based on the structure, but the intention is to have more specific statutory authority. Williams asked isn't this what we are going to be addressing in our new committee. Chairman Rand said his expectation is that the relationship between the County board and elected officials with the respect to a host of matters of mutual interest can be driven by that conversation.

Mayer said that 1: We don't have a complete understanding of what we want which would make it difficult for legislators, 2: There may be a difference between other elected officials vs. agencies, boards and commissions since there may be constitutional rights, 3: We have a very good working relationship with the electeds even with a few hiccups and hopes the super committee improves on that. Ardapple said she respectfully disagrees. The document from the state's attorney's office has opened the door for this conversation, causing the Board to ask more specific questions regarding our role and authority. She entertained that this should remain on the legislative agenda for dialog purposes.

Elsasser said that he doesn't feel comfortable sending this to Springfield and recommended that board members bring it up at the Illinois Association of Counties conference. We still have the control of the budget and we need to remember that. Trumpe said she has similar concerns. Ms. Curtis Luther clarified that she does not have an opinion on the matter. This is clearly a policy decision and she is ok with it either way. Baietto questioned whether it is a good idea to get the state involved when the board is paid to make the decisions on the budget and staff. Fennell said the problem is the Board cannot mandate that they stay within a certain limit because they do not have the power. Mr. Atkins clarified that this is withdrawing support for an item on the legislative agenda, not amending the resolution. The resolution will stay the same.

Phelan asked for a clarification on the City Request - Local Pension Reform item. Ms. Curtis Luther said that the item is specifically a City request and explained the process of the joint legislative meeting. Dillon further explained that the County and City used to have separate meetings with legislators and these were combined for the sake of the legislators. He said that having this on the sheet of paper does not necessarily mean the county is showing support for it. There have been contradictory items in the past.

Ms. Curtis Luther said on October 28th there was a discussion at Management Services Committee regarding the county setting the budget for elected officials' budgets and the elected officials maintain the authority to determine the number of employees. A request was made to add a legislative item to address the inconsistency. Ms. Curtis Luther also clarified that the draft legislative agenda had gone through the committee process. Chairman Rand called for a vote the motion to eliminate the following item from the Legislative Agenda: County Request - Co-Employer Relationship of County Boards. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 12 ayes and 5 nays, with Ardapple, Fennell, Harding, Morris and Phelan voting nay.

Elsasser brought up the motor fuel tax and making sure the County gets their fair share. He expressed his displeasure that it is not on the agenda. Ms. Curtis Luther said that the intention was for this to be covered under the Sustainable Infrastructure Funding item,



which is a joint request with the City to find alternatives to keep transportation funding structures in line with inflation. This is to address not only the MTF issue but the broader transportation issue as well. The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 16 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay.

## **V. MISCELLANEOUS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Rand noted that the State of the County Address will be on February 11th at 7:30 a.m. at the Coyote Creek Clubhouse in the Bartonville community. The February regular County Board Meeting will be on the road with Fennell being the first host at the Chillicothe Public Library.

Williams noted that tomorrow [January 9th] is National Law Enforcement Day.

Fennell noted that Governor-Elect Rauner will be at the Pearce Community Center in Chillicothe tomorrow [January 9th] at 11 a.m.

Ardapple said she would like to bring to the group's awareness that she thinks courtesy needs to be involved when board members hold public meetings. That they're cautious when holding meetings on very important and complex public topics which are being discussed as board work. And if not, be diligent with the media not to convey that the subject being discussed is a County Board meeting. She referenced the PHA meeting that was hosted by Elsasser and Trumpe on Tuesday night. She has received many calls asking what's the County's position and next step. She asked her colleagues to be respectful to the others around the board when such meetings are held.

Elsasser said he had hoped everything could have been handled differently. The public comment period was going to end four days after he read the article in the paper. He called the PHA and asked them to extend it to the end of January or 1st of February. He said that the PHA agreed to extend it well into January. However, it came out in the Journal Star that it would end January 7th, which made the window narrow for the last opportunity for citizens to issue public comment. That is the reason why it occurred the way it did. He said that as he presented the issues, he said it may not reflect the views of other county board members, but it does reflect what the ordinances say.

Baietto congratulated Dillon on becoming engaged.

Trumpe provided an invitation to attend a breakfast at Expo Gardens on Saturday, March 14th. The cost will probably be \$0.90 which will include sausage, scrambled eggs, pancakes and beverages. There will also be an array of farm machinery and baby animal exhibits. Trumpe also said in response to Ardapple's comments, this was an attempt to allow people to hear what the PHA would like to describe about what they are going to do. Many people have emailed or called saying thank you for allowing them the opportunity to hear more about it. She felt people were, overall, very happy about it.

Morris commented in relation to the PHA event that he had also received a number of



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phone calls, including that night. He said he was not at the meeting. For him, he feels the County Board is somewhat flat-footed on this. Several of the bylines he saw stated County Board holds meeting. He isn't suggesting that anyone stated they were county board meetings. However, when county board members hold meetings, it's sometimes appears as though it's under the auspices of the County Board. He asks that PHA be invited to explain it so that everyone is bettered educated. As it relates to the comments about the end of the comments period, he flat out rejects that. The County will have their own public comments, processes and hearings if and when any petition is made to the County's Planning and Zoning. He said it appears this conversation has been going on for the better part of seven years. To suggest that we've now run out of time, it's just not fact.

Phelan said he echoes Morris' request. He had been asked to sit on a PHA focus group several years ago for Taft Homes, which he enjoyed very much, and he has a lot of confidence in Ms. Coats and her organization. He praised them for a lot of the work they do in the community. He thought it would be good to solicit input from other parts of the County. He finds it important to back the PHA in all the work they do in providing public housing to those that are in great need of it.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel Matters**

Salzer moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters and Fennell seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous roll call of 17 ayes.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman announced the meeting was adjourned.