

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

**PEORIA COUNTY BOARD
BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 19, 2015
6:00 PM**

County Courthouse • 324 Main Street • County Board Room 403 • Peoria, Illinois 61602
Voice: (309) 672-6056 • Fax: (309) 672-6054 • TDD: (309) 672-6073
www.peoriacounty.org/countyboard

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. MOMENT OF SILENCE

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. 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, Harding, Mayer, Morris, O'Neill, Pearson, Rand, Rosenbohm, Salzer, Trumpe, Watkins and Williams, with Fennell, Parker and Phelan absent.

V. CITIZEN'S REMARKS

Joyce Harant, President of Peoria County Board of Health, addressed the Board regarding the budget. She stated that the Board of Health objects to the budgeting process this year, but does not oppose the 2016 budget. She explained that the Board of Health looks forward to open discussion, communication, and dialogue about the services of the Health Department, the public health needs, and health priorities and strategies. She thanked Chairman Rand on the appointment of the Health Administrator to the County's Collaborative Committee.

VI. ZONING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

1. A resolution from your County Operations Committee recommending approval of the FY2016 Authorized Staffing Count for Administrative Departments.

Ardapple moved to approve the resolution and Morris seconded.

Mr. Sorrel explained that this resolution differs from previous years in that this year's resolution only addresses those departments that report to the County Board through the County Administrator. He said the total number of FTEs is 329.43, which is a slight decrease from last



**Peoria County Board
Minutes, Thursday, November 19, 2015**

year. He stated that a conscious decision was made to not include the elected offices and quasi independent offices; instead focusing on dollars rather than total personnel.

The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay.

2. A resolution from your Health, Public Safety and Justice Committee recommending approval of the 2016 State's Attorney Appellate Prosecutor Agreement.

Baietto moved to approve the resolution and Mayer seconded.

Mr. Sorrel described how this resolution allows the State's Attorney's Office to participate in the Appellate Prosecutor program. He said that it funds the State program and gives the State's Attorney's Office access for appeals.

The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 15 ayes.

3. A resolution from your County Operations Committee recommending approval of the FY2016 Capital Improvement Budget and the 2016-2020 Capital Improvement Plan.

O'Neill moved to approve the resolution and Watkins seconded. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 15 ayes.

4. A joint resolution from your Budget Subcommittee and your Executive Committee recommending approval to remove "Operating Budget Policy #6: Capital Replacement" from the Comprehensive Financial Policies of Peoria County.

Mayer moved to approve the resolution and Williams seconded.

Mr. Sorrell explained that the resolution is a formalization of what has been done operationally to fund capital improvement dollars.

The resolution was passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 15 ayes.

5. A joint resolution from your Budget Subcommittee and your Executive Committee recommending approval of the Annual Authorization for Year End Transfers.

Mayer moved to approve the resolution and Elsasser seconded.

Mr. Sorrel stated that the resolution authorizes the Administrator to make year-end transfers to pay obligations.

The resolution was passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay.

6. A joint resolution from your Budget Subcommittee and your Executive Committee recommending approval to abate the tax levy for the principal and interest payments due in 2016 for:
 - a. The General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue source) Series 2010 A and B
 - b. The General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue source) Series 2010



E and F

- c. The General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue source) Series 2011

Mayer moved to approve the resolution and Morris seconded. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 15 ayes.

7. An Executive Committee report submitted by the Executive Committee Chairman and the County Administrator on the 2016 Annual Budget for all Funds, including amendments recommended by all standing committees:
- a. County Operations Committee - Michael Phelan
 - b. Health, Public Safety and Justice Committee - Robert Baietto
 - c. Land use and Infrastructure Committee - James Dillon
 - d. Ways and Means Committee
 - e. Joint Budget Subcommittee / Executive Committee - James Fennell / Andrew Rand

Rosenbohm moved to approve the resolution and Ardapple seconded. The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay.

8. Adoption of the Annual Tax Levy - All Funds

O'Neill moved to approve the resolution and Baietto seconded.

Mr. Sorrel described the Tax Levy and Annual Budget and Appropriation as the most important items done by the County Board because nothing else can be passed without the spending authority. He said that this year's tax levy would be 80.50 cents, the same rate as last year, for a total of \$27,125,839. He explained that the property values have recovered from the recession of 5 years ago, and have helped to gain \$800,000 in property tax revenue. He stated that the expiring payments on an early retirement, fewer employees, and a reduced levy from the Health Department helped balance the budget. He explained the funding involved in the various special funds.

The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 15 ayes.

9. Adoption of the Peoria County Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016.

Salzer moved to approve the ordinance and Mayer seconded.

Mr. Sorrel presented an overview of the budget appropriation with the stated goals of maintaining service levels, minimizing the tax impact on residents, and maximizing existing revenues. He identified how the process differed from past years by taking an income-based approach and building the expenditures around the revenues, instead of looking at expenditures first and backing into the revenues. He stated that the recommended budget beginning next year would have \$85 million in fund balances and \$123.3 million in revenues, keeping the tax rate the same at 80.5 cents. He noted that \$77 million is projected for ending fund balances, with approximately \$131.5 million in expenditures. He detailed how the expenditures will be about \$69.5 million in wages and benefits, \$41.5 million in commodities and contractals, \$6.7 million in capital, and \$7.6 million in debt service. He said the General Fund is balanced at \$45.3 million. He reported



that the property tax revenue is expected to increase \$1.3 million and sales tax is expected to decrease based on the local economy. He summarized the expenditures from the General Fund, including the transfers to other funds. He highlighted that staffing has decreased by almost 15 employees from the current year and decreased by 15% from the high water mark in 2009 of 1,031 FTEs.

Elsasser mentioned his opposition to a specific issue of the budget, but it would not keep him from voting against the whole budget. He noted that in the past, budget meetings would last upwards of 3 hours because matters were not decided at the committee level. He believes this is a better way to go about business.

The ordinance passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ardapple expressed her gratefulness to the staff for their help in promoting Shop Local and Small Business Saturday. She asked that all support the independent small businesses not only a week from Saturday but year-round.

Morris congratulated Chairman Rand, Mr. Sorrel, and Mr. Dubrowski and his staff, the Electeds, and the employees for recognizing the tight times. He noted there was a lot of work that went into the budget, and nobody got exactly what they wanted. He stated that the budget puts the County in a better place not only for 2016 but 2017. He expressed his thankfulness to Chairman Rand for his leadership and getting the ship on the right course.

Baietto thanked Mr. Sorrel and Chairman Rand for taking the extra time to explain the budget. He noted that this process was the best because of the communication, and he hopes the communication lines stay open.

Chairman Rand thanked the staff, the elected officials, the committee chairpersons, and especially the Collaborative Committee chaired by Ardapple and co-chaired by Williams; which helped create the communication. He said that the Board has made it here because of a collaborative effort by Team Peoria County. He predicted that the County is good for the next couple of years. He stated that the structural challenges have been largely arrested due to the decisions made over last year's and this year's budget. However, he said any changes by the State will have an impact on the budget. He brought up the handout from County Clerk Steve Sonnemaker about the hospitality suite being hosted by the elected officials for the Illinois Association of County Officials from November 22nd through November 24th at the Pere Marquette.

Williams announced that a holiday get together will be held at 5pm prior to next month's County Board meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

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