

Bonnie J. Hester, District 1
Junior Watkins, District 2
Lynn Scott Pearson, District 3
Andrew 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



Thomas H. O'Neill, III - Chairperson
R. Steve Sonnemaker, County Clerk

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

**PEORIA COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES
Thursday, November 10, 2011
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, Elsasser, Fennell, Harding, Hester, Mayer, Morris, O'Neill, Parker, Pearson, Phelan, Rand, Rosenbohm, Salzer, Trumpe and Watkins, with Dillon absent.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Approval of October 13, 2011 County Board Minutes

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

II. PROCLAMATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- A proclamation recognizing the 2011 Citizen's Leadership Academy graduates

Dillon entered the meeting.

The Chairman noted that Items 1 and 2 would be taken before the Consent Agenda and Citizen's Remarks. The Clerk noted that the Board members should have redlined, amended resolutions for these items.

ITEM NO. 1

1. A resolution from your Regional Pollution Control Site Hearing Committee recommending approval of Findings of Fact concerning Peoria City/County Landfill, Inc. application for local siting approval of a pollution control facility,



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filed with the Peoria County Clerk on May 18, 2011.

Mayer moved to approve the resolution and Rand seconded. Mayer said that this process has been open and very fair. The Committee did not simply approve the application; they had very able outside counsel and also assistance from Patrick Engineering to review the application. The Committee pushed staff to explain things and as a result, the findings approve the siting but only with 13, rather detailed special conditions. The conditions range from requiring that the applicant keep the landfill open and available to Peoria County residents for as long as the landfill is open to specifying that the design of the leachate collection system has to have a double liner. Also, delisted K-waste is prohibited. He said the end product is not just the result of outside assistance and the Committee. It is also because of the people in the community who are interested in this issue. The County would not have been presented with an application that includes expanded recycling, a citizen's convenience center for household hazardous waste and is a smaller size than was originally proposed if it hadn't been for the citizen activists who volunteer their time.

Mr. Atkins noted that four members will be abstaining from the vote, and he thinks it is best for their reasons to be stated before discussion. He also said there is no problem with these members remaining in the room, but they should not take part in the discussion. He said that Harding, Morris and Pearson will be abstaining because they were on the Landfill Committee and were therefore involved with the application. They can participate as the applicant, but not as the decision maker. He asked Rosenbohm to state his reason for abstaining. Rosenbohm said that his business, LHF Compost, gets all the yard waste from PDC, so there may be a chance of monetary gain, and he will be abstaining.

The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 4 abstentions, with Harding, Morris, Pearson and Rosenbohm abstaining.

ITEM NO. 2

2. A resolution from your Regional Pollution Control Site Hearing Committee recommending approval of Application from Peoria City/County Landfill, Inc. for local siting approval of a pollution control facility, filed with the Peoria County Clerk on May 18, 2011.

Mayer moved to approve the resolution and Rand seconded. Mayer noted that the Board just adopted the Findings of Fact; now they need to vote on the application.

The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 4 abstentions, with Harding, Morris, Pearson and Rosenbohm abstaining.

Mayer asked whether it needs to be made clear that the resolutions the Board just adopted were the redlined versions which were mentioned. Mr. Atkins gave the redlined versions of the resolutions for Item Nos. 1 and 2 to the court reporter to be made part of the landfill siting record.



III. CONSENT AGENDA

- C1.** The Treasurer report consisting of the Bank and CD's Portfolio for the month of September 2011 and Revenue & Expenditure Reports for the month of August 2011.
- C2.** A resolution (items 1, 2, 3, & 5 - 20 conveyance and item 4 reconveyance) from the Tax, Elections, Policy, and Audit Committee Chairman and County Administrator recommending that the County Board Chairman be authorized and directed to execute deeds of conveyance and reconveyance of the County's interest to the highest bidder, and be authorized to cancel the appropriate Certificates of Purchase. This resolution shall be effective ninety days from November 10, 2011, and any transaction between the parties involved not occurring within this period shall be null and void. (Poll vote per Rules of Order, Article V, Section 18C)
- C3.** A resolution from your Land Use and Transportation Committee recommending approval of a Grant Agreement in the amount of \$299,698.00 with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) for rehabilitation of seven (7) owner-occupied houses in Limestone Township.
- C4.** A resolution from your Land Use and Transportation Committee recommending approval of the low bid of Stark Excavating, Bloomington, IL, in the amount of \$108,126.10, for beam and guardrail repair of the bridge on Old Galena Road (CH R 60) in Hallock Township.
- C5.** A resolution from your Land Use and Transportation Committee recommending approval of the low bid of Illinois Civil Contractors, Inc., East Peoria, IL, in the amount of \$411,372.50, for bridge approach repairs of bridges on Princeville Jubilee Road (CH R 40) in Jubilee Township and on Cedar Hills Drive (CH D 28) in Medina Township.
- C6.** A resolution from your Land Use and Transportation Committee recommending approval of a Maintenance Agreement with Hollis Road District for the continued maintenance of McCullough Road by Peoria County.
- C7.** A resolution from your Management Services Committee authorizing IT Services to renew software and support services for one year for seven (7) major systems in various County offices, in the amount of \$262,216.87, with the funds being paid from the IT Services Maintenance Account.
- C8.** A resolution from your Management Services Committee recommending approval of a bid from Slavin Management Consultants, Norcross, GA, in an amount not to exceed \$42,000.00, for two (2) vacant Senior Managers.
- C9.** A resolution from your Management Services Committee recommending approval of 3-year contracts, with the option to renew in years 4 and 5, with Arthur J. Gallagher for excess insurance/broker services and Gallagher Bassett for Third Party Administrator services at estimated annual cost of \$755,247.00.
- C10.** A resolution from your Management Services Committee recommending approval of a contract with HM Life in the amount of \$325,942.44, for the provision of Stop Loss Excess Insurance coverage for January 1, 2012 -



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December 31, 2012.

- C11.** A resolution from your Public Safety, Law Enforcement and Courts Administration Committee recommending approval of a Community Services Grant Agreement with the Illinois Department of Human Services for the continuation of the Juvenile Probation Domestic Battery Grant.
- C12.** A resolution from your Public Safety, Law Enforcement and Courts Administration Committee recommending approval of a Community Services Grant Agreement with the Illinois Department of Human Services for the continuation of the Juvenile Detention Transportation Grant.
- C13.** A resolution from your Public Safety, Law Enforcement and Courts Administration Committee recommending approval of a Community Services Grant Agreement with the Illinois Department of Human Services for the continuation of the Juvenile Probation Redeploy Illinois Grant.
- C14.** A resolution from your Public Safety, Law Enforcement and Courts Administration Committee recommending approval of the FY2012 Annual Probation Plan.
- C15.** A resolution from your Rules Committee recommending adoption of the 2011-2012 Peoria County Board Rules of Order as amended.

C16. Chairman Appointments

Mayer moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Morris seconded. Ardapple asked to pull Appointments from the Consent Agenda and Baietto asked to pull Item C8 from the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda without Item C8 or Appointments passed by a roll call vote of 17 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay.

ITEM C8

A resolution from your Management Services Committee recommending approval of a bid from Slavin Management Consultants, Norcross, GA, in an amount not to exceed \$42,000.00, for two (2) vacant Senior Managers.

Baietto said that if he had had trouble in the past with Administration selecting employees without the use of a consultant, then possibly he could support this motion. He said an inherent objective of an administrator is personnel selection, supervision and evaluation. Having heard the projections for 2013 revenue versus the tax rate and monies that will be available, he said he has real concerns about spending money to hire a consultant to hire positions which have been hired without a consultant before. He thinks the Board should start now to save every penny they can towards the 2013 budget so there aren't any layoffs. Elsasser asked about bid amounts. Ms. Curtis Luther said the amounts weren't apples to apples comparisons, and this is the only firm that bid with experience in placing positions for both CIO and economic development. She believes they are the only qualified bidder. Elsasser said he would appreciate having the dollar amounts the next time. He said he also agreed with Baietto in that the County has qualified people who could do this work and save the County \$42,000.00.



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Item C8 passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 4 nays, with Baietto, Elsasser, Fennell and Harding voting nay.

CHAIRMAN APPOINTMENTS

Ardapple complimented the Chairman for his leadership in assisting Board Member Parker with the MBE Committee. She said it is excellent to see the well rounded scope of committee members. She noted that the Saturday after Thanksgiving is Small Business Saturday; she thinks that with Parker's efforts and the members of her committee, a year from now the County is going to see increased activity in the small business community. The appointments passed by a roll call vote of 16 ayes and 2 nays, with Elsasser and Harding voting nay.

IV. CITIZENS' REMARKS

General Parker, 2101 N. Bigelow Street, Peoria filed a request to address the Board on the Lead Abatement Program, but was not present when called upon to speak.

Joyce Blumenshine, 120 W. Arcadia, Peoria, HOI Sierra Club, addressed the Board with regard to Landfill Committee appointments. Ms. Blumenshine thanked the Board and the Site Hearing Committee for their efforts. She said the Sierra Club did not wish for such a large landfill, but there are certainly positives to work on. The question they have is how much Peoria is getting for its recycling; those statistics have not been made available. She asked that an environmental community representative be put on the Landfill Committee.

Tracy Fox, 15215 N. Ivy Lake Road, Chillicothe, addressed the Board with regard to recycling. Ms. Fox also thanked the Board and the Site Hearing Committee for allowing so much public input in the process. She said she recently toured the Southwind RAS asphalt shingle plant and encouraged the Board to look at this company as a way to further recycling.

Pearson left the meeting.

V. ZONING ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS

3. Case 052-11-S (Peoria County) The petitioner requested approval of text amendments to Chapter 24 of the Peoria County Code (Unified Development Ordinance) per the attached resolution. The Zoning Board of Appeals recommends approval. The Land Use and Transportation Committee recommends approval.

Mr. Atkins noted that there are paper copies of the UDO available to all Board members. He said he wasn't sure if there were enough copies for each member, so they may need to share.



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

Phelan left the meeting.

4. Case W04-11, Justin and Julie May. A resolution from your Land Use and Transportation Committee recommending approval of a waiver of compliance from Section 20-5-14.B.2 of the Subdivision Ordinance. This section requires all minor subdivisions to have a public water supply. The property is located in Rosefield Township.

Morris moved to approve the resolution and Fennell seconded. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 16 ayes.

5. A resolution from your Land Use and Transportation Committee recommending approval of an Ordinance and Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement to participate in the Assist 2011, Homebuyer Assistance Program.

Morris moved to approve the ordinance and Ardapple seconded. Morris said he thinks this is a great program, and asked Mr. Wahl to give a summary. Mr. Wahl said the County has participated in this program for 14 years. It provides down payment assistance and applies to people who have not been on a mortgage for three years; there are income limitations. Parker asked how this program is marketed. Mr. Wahl said they are working with Ms. Fulton to do public outreach and education.

Phelan returned to the meeting.

The ordinance was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

6. A resolution from your Executive Committee recommending approval of a GAP Loan Request for Sarah's Friendly Hardware, Inc. in the amount of up to \$40,000 to be amortized for 30 months at an interest rate of 3% below the prime.

Rand moved to approve the resolution and Ardapple seconded. Chairman O'Neill noted that Elmwood received the Governor's Home Town Award. He said they had lost their hardware store, and this is a big plus for the town. The resolution was approved by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

7. A joint resolution from your Management Services, Finance and Executive Committees authorizing the County Administrator (per Peoria County code Sec. 2-46) to convert four (4) existing positions currently in County Administration to (3) Assistant County Administrator Positions and one Rural Development Coordinator position.

Phelan moved to approve the resolution and Dillon seconded. Phelan said that the Committee approved this unanimously. Ms. Curtis Luther noted that she started as County Administrator just under three months ago and has had an opportunity to review the structure currently in place. Currently she interacts with 27 departments,



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15 of which report directly to her. Looking at the best practices of other governmental organizations, she said it is her professional opinion that converting three existing positions to Assistant County Administrator positions and shifting some of the direct reporting to them will be more efficient. She said two of the individuals have informally taken on a great deal of responsibility; this action will formalize those relationships. She pointed out that the County's FTE count is being reduced by 7.5 and that these positions do not add to the FTE count.

Baietto asked which positions are being eliminated. Ms. Curtis Luther responded some of the positions are at Bel-Wood and one was at the Care and Treatment Board. She reminded the Board that going back to 2009, the County eliminated over 100 positions. Baietto asked whether it is correct that none of the positions eliminated were administrative; Ms. Curtis Luther replied that is correct. Baietto said that is a concern to him. He said the County has added administrators while reducing the workforce and asked what message this sends to them. He said he cannot support this motion. Ms. Curtis Luther clarified this will not increase the number of FTEs; it is just a conversion of existing positions. Elsasser said when he first came onto the Board, most of County Administration fit into the two rooms across the hall. He asked whether the elevation in titles will cost the County in the long run. Ms. Curtis Luther replied that a change in job title alone does not increase one's salary. Job descriptions and specific job requirements drive the salary. She said wages in Administration for the 2012 budget were reduced by over \$50,000.00. That does not take into account an additional \$50,000.00 reduction which was the result of shifting to other areas.

Phelan said he came onto the Board at the same time as Elsasser, and there were fewer people in Administration. But he also noted that one of the first actions he voted on was the issuance of tax warrants to make payroll. The County couldn't make its payroll and had a \$2,000,000.00 deficit in its health fund and difficult relations with its unions. There were so many things going wrong he can't even list them all. He said when the Board hired a CFO and an Economic Development Director, it came out of the strategic plan developed by the Board. He said he thinks everyone agrees that having a CFO has been very important to this organization. And economic development means bringing jobs and opportunity to the County, and he thinks we all want to do that. He asked everyone to consider that even though the Board has nearly a thousand employees they are indirectly responsible for, the Board has one employee, and the Board needs to support her.

Rosenbohm asked Ms. Curtis Luther to explain what happens if she adds responsibilities to these positions. She replied that the County uses the Hay system to evaluate positions. Anytime there are significant and permanent changes to a job description, a committee evaluates those responsibilities and duties, and a wage range is assigned. Baietto said it's a comprehensive process. There is some subjectivity, but it's limited. Ardapple said Ms. Curtis Luther has her full support. She thinks this is Ms. Curtis Luther's leadership team and believes her role [as a Board member] is to set policy, not to do the Administrator's job. She said the Board has placed some very large goals before the organization for the future, and we need the best leadership team. She looks upon these positions as an investment in the future. Rand said the Board doesn't tell the Sheriff how many captains he can have and doesn't tell the Circuit Clerk how many deputies he can have, but tonight we want to micromanage the Administrator for the first time in the three years he's been



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on the Board. He thinks it's the result of a misunderstanding of the roles of Board members. He said when the Board hired Ms. Curtis Luther, they voted unanimously having told her they would respect her position as CEO of a county government and support her decisions to organize in the manner she believes would be in the interests of our citizens. He said he doesn't think the Board should grade Ms. Curtis Luther's recommendation tonight based on some old ways of doing things. He thinks they should do it based on the same unanimous support they gave her when they hired her. The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 14 ayes and 3 nays, with Baietto, Elsasser and Harding voting nay.

- 8.** A resolution from your Management Services Committee recommending approval of the appointment of Amy Benecke McLaren as County Highway Engineer for a six-year term.

Phelan moved to approve the resolution and Mayer seconded. Morris said the Chairman asked Phelan and him, along with Bill Atwood, to interview the candidates. Their recommendation is that Ms. McLaren is the right choice and the best choice. Elsasser said he has worked with Ms. McLaren many times, and she has always worked hard and communicated well with him. Baietto said she is an outstanding individual, and he is very happy for her. Salzer said he too supports this, but asked whether the six year term begins with the approval. Mr. Atkins replied the term does begin with the Board's approval. Chairman O'Neill said it's no secret there were many problems at the Highway Department, and he asked Ms. McLaren as Interim County Engineer to address them. He said she, with Mr. Gilles' help, did address them and took care of them. Phelan asked if Ms. McLaren could address the Board.

Ms. McLaren thanked the Board for their confidence in her. She said she loves working at the Highway Department; it is like a second family to her. She also thanked her family and staff and Judy McFarland for their support. The resolution passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 17 ayes.

- 9.** A resolution from your Facilities and Space Planning Committee recommending the most qualified low bid of Loomis Brothers Equipment Company, in the amount of \$80,814.70, for the provision of laundry equipment for the new County-owned Elder Care Facility.



Salzer moved to approve the resolution and Baietto seconded. Salzer said this was budgeted at \$240,000.00. He commended the project manager and said she's doing a great job. The resolution passed by a roll call vote of 13 ayes and 4 nays, with Harding, Morris, Rosenbohm and Trumpe voting nay.

The Chairman announced that the Board needs to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

- 10.** Executive Session - Pending Litigation

Watkins moved to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and Baietto seconded. The motion passed by a roll call vote of 16 ayes and 1 nay, with Harding voting nay.



VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

There were no miscellaneous items.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Phelan said there is an IRVCOG (Illinois River Valley Council of Governments) meeting on Monday; everyone is invited to attend.

Rand thanked Mayer for his leadership as Chair of the Site Hearing Committee.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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