

Proceedings of the Ogle County Special Board Meeting  
August 11, 2005

State of Illinois     )  
County of Ogle     ) ss  
City of Oregon     )

Call to Order

Chairman Gocken calls the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The meeting opens with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The roll call shows Hoekstra, Huntley and Zuehl are absent.

**Closed Session**

Chairman Gocken asks for a motion to go into Closed Session regarding Collective Negotiations. Kenney moves to go into Closed Session, Rice seconds and a roll call vote is taken:

**YES:** Hopkins, Horner, Kenney, Nye, Pleniewicz, Remhof, Rice, Saunders, Scholl, Spencer, Stahl, Swanson, White, Bauer, Brooks, Clayton, Colbert, Colson, Gouker, Heuer and Gocken

**NO:** None

**ABSENT:** Huntley, Zuehl and Hoekstra

The motion carries on a roll call vote.

**Open Session**

At 6:57 p.m., the board returns to Open Session and no action is taken.

**Public Comments**

**Motion to Adjourn**

At 7:00 p.m., Remhof moves to adjourn the Special Ogle County Board, Colson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Betty Gocken  
Chairman Ogle County Board

Attest: Rebecca Huntley, Ogle County Clerk &  
Ex-officio Clerk of the Ogle County Board

Proceedings of the Ogle County Board Meeting  
August 16, 2005

State of Illinois     )  
County of Ogle     ) ss  
City of Oregon     )

Call to Order

Chairman Gocken calls the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**Roll Call**

The roll call shows Colson\* and Hopkins are absent. The invocation is given by Don Huntley and this is followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.(Colson arrives shortly after roll call)

**Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Gocken asks for approval of the July 19, 2005, Ogle County Board minutes. Hoekstra moves to approve the July 19, 2005, Ogle County Board minutes, Huntley seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

**Approval of Reports**

Swanson moves to accept and place on file the monthly reports of the Treasurer, County Clerk/Recorder and Circuit Clerk. Hoekstra seconds and the motion carries on voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Hearings - Greg Martin of Focus House**

Chairman Gocken states Greg Martin is here tonight to talk to the board about United Way and the Focus House Open House. Martin informs board members there is information regarding the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Focus House on their desks. There are also raffle tickets and order forms for the Focus House Cookbook on your desks as well.

**Hearings - Sheri Egan of United Way**

Greg Martin introduces Sheri Egan of United Way to inform the board members of their organization and how your contributions are used by United Way. Martin says Ms. Egan will be in touch with the various departments to seek contributions from Ogle County Employees. Martin informs the board that Focus House receives money from United Way and as part of the agreement, Focus House must perform some kind of fundraiser or employee drive. Focus House held a carwash a couple of weeks ago and presents Ms. Egan a check for \$250 from this carwash to begin the kick-off. After the presentation, there was some time allowed for questions and answers.

**Appointments**

Information Technology (IT) Committee

Chairman Gocken states the IT Committee has recommended the county's G.I.S. Specialist, Michael Nolte become a member of the committee. Remhof moves to appoint Michael Nolte to the IT Committee, Colson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Mental Health "708 Board

Chairman Gocken informs the board this appointment will be made next month.

Ogle County Planning Commission

Chairman Gocken says this appointment is postponed pending an opinion.

**Vacancies -**

Chairman Gocken announces the following vacancy:

Ogle County Housing Authority

Application deadline for this appointment will be Friday, September 30, 2005, at 4:30 p.m. in the Ogle County Clerk's Office

**Recess to refer claims to a committee**

At 5:52 p.m., Chairman Gocken asks for a motion to recess and refer claims to committee. Horner asks not to refer claims to committee and continue with the meeting. All were in agreement and the meeting continues.

**Claims**

The clerk reads the claims for the General Fund - \$84,730.44 and the County Highway Fund - \$32,835.26. Rice moves to approve the claims as read, Swanson seconds. Saunders objects to the motion and reads the statement which is attached to the Judiciary & Circuit Clerk minutes; *"Unfunded office expenses that will, when approved by the Ogle County Board, take the Ogle County Circuit Clerk's projected budget over the approved amount of \$456,000."* Saunders reads a statute to the board and Colson quotes another statute regarding budgets. Chairman Gocken asks States Attorney Ben Roe to review the statute. After a little more discussion, Chairman Gocken asks States Attorney Roe to look into this matter. Roe says he will look into this and be available at the next Finance Committee meeting to review his findings. There was discussion regarding approval of the claims with the exception of the Circuit Clerk claims. Spencer asks we defer payment on the claims until the end of the budget year and see if the Circuit Clerk has money left in his budget. Colbert and Stahl say this statement has been included in the past couple of months and attached to the minutes. There is money in the Circuit Clerk's budget at this time and Typer says he will be overdrawn by the end of the year. Since the Circuit Clerk is not over budget at this time, Chairman Gocken asks to continue with the motion and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The following committees had no additional report other than the minutes that are placed on an exhibit: *County Clerk & Insurance, Buildings & Grounds, Judiciary & Circuit Clerk, Juvenile & Probation, Sheriff & Coroner, States Attorney & Legislative, Road & Bridge, Blackhawk Hills RC&D, Tri-County Opportunities, IT Committee and 9-1-1 E.T.S. Board.* The following had no minutes to file: *Board of Health, Ill Assoc. of County Board Members, U.C.C.I., Ill Risk Management, mental Health Board, Safety Committee, Liquor Commission and Byron Dragway.*

**Finance & Revenue**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Transfer of funds

Spencer makes a motion to transfer \$163,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund to the General Fund effective December 1, 2005 for the 2006 budget year.

**H.E.W. & Solid Waste**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Ordinance

Chairman Gocken introduces the Ordinance from the Health Department regarding Environmental Fee increases. Doreen O'Brien explains to the

board the need to increase Private Well Water and Septic Fees. Doreen O'Brien says this Ordinance will lay over for 30 days and will not take effect until December 1, 2005. Spencer moves to approve the Ordinance as presented and lay it over for 30 days, Rice seconds.

Host Fee

Chairman Gocken states Ogle County has received the Host Fee for the second quarter in the amount of \$606,938.09. This brings the total amount of fees collected in 2005 to \$1,064,921.04 and a total of \$12,119,119.91 since 1998.

Recycling Event

Chairman Gocken announces the Tire and Oil Recycling Event will be co-sponsored by the IEPA, Lee and Ogle Counties. The event will be held at the Lee County 4-H Center - 1196 Franklin Rd, Amboy, Illinois on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. They are still in need of volunteers for this event. Chairman Gocken says Jason Bauer volunteers at this event and thanks him.

Correction in minutes

Chairman Gocken informs the board of some changes regarding the HEW Committee meeting -

- Health Dept report was given at the Solid Waste meeting
- Dennis Schumacher attended and asked to discuss landfills. The committee asked him to come to the Solid Waste meeting next month. He then gave a brief update on the Hillcrest sewer and septic.

**Planning, Assessment & Zoning** Minutes placed on exhibit

Meeting

Zuehl and Remhof remind the board of the meeting regarding Rural Subdivisions at 7:00 p.m. at the Farm Bureau Building on Pines Road in Oregon.

**Blackhawk Hills RC&D**

Newsletter on exhibit

Update

Colson says the newsletter have been distributed.

**Ill Assoc. of County Board Members**

No minutes

Update

Saunders attended the meeting and they discussed a plan to educate County Board members. She says after 24 hours of education you can become a Certified County Board member. Saunders also informs the board one of the Extension providers from Rockford provided a CD to every county in attendance. Anyone who wants a copy of the CD, see Laura and she will provide a copy.

**U.C.C.I.** No minutes

Update Heuer states the next meeting is set for September 26<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. In October there will be information on the Convention which will be held at the Lincoln Library.

**Illinois Risk Management** No minutes

Update Heuer says she has a copy of the audit if anyone is interested.

Refund Chairman Gocken adds she has received a check for \$500 which is a refund for attending 2 UCCI Board meetings and reads the letter included with the check. Chairman Gocken asks County Clerk Huntley to turn the check into the Treasurer.

**Planning Commission** Minutes placed on exhibit

Meeting Remhof states the next meeting will be held on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in the County Board room.

**Personnel & Salary** Minutes placed on exhibit

County Administrator Saunders informs the board members the information compiled for the County Administrator was included in the board packets this month. Remhof asks how the meeting went at the Farm Bureau? Saunders says yes there were questions and the Farm Bureau was kind enough to submit the questions in advance of the meeting. There was discussion regarding the interview and review of the County Administrator position and how it would be handled, starting salary for the Administrator and support staff. Spencer states there is no money to fund this position. Spencer makes the motion to delay the whole process until the 2007 or 2008 budget. Stahl says the information they have gathered from other Administrators, says there is a savings from their knowledge they bring to the county and end up paying for their salaries through grants. Hoekstra seconds. White brings up a couple of possibilities to fund this position, they are a possible tax increase (need to talk to constituents to see if this is acceptable) or come up with dedicated funds. White says this position needs to be funded prior to a motion to hire an administrator. You could have the 15 to 19 departments do an even split and the chairman would need to contact the various departments to see if they would be willing to do this. This could run anywhere between \$7,000 and \$10,000 per department. Nye says while each board member has their own area of expertise, none of us have a Masters in County Management. The evidence shows other counties with Administrators have paid for their salaries within a year. It just makes

sense. Gouker states everything has pros and cons and asks if in the research did the committee find any negative comments. Kenney and Saunders stated no negative comments surfaced and they talked to counties who have Administrators. Saunders states there probably are negatives, but they were not given to them. There was discussion regarding how an Administrator will provide better communication between county officials and departments. Remhof moves to table Spencer's motion until the September meeting, to provide time to research some of the items that have come forward at tonight's meeting. Clayton seconds. There was discussion as to what information needed to be explored and what will improve the communications and transfer of knowledge regarding this discuss before next month? A roll call vote is called:

**YES:** Horner, Remhof, Swanson, White, Clayton, Colson, Gouker, Heuer and Gocken

**NO:** Huntley, Kenney, Nye, Pleniewicz, Rice, Saunders, Scholl, Spencer, Stahl, Zuehl, Bauer, Brooks, Colbert and Hoekstra

**ABSENT:** Hopkins

The motion is defeated on a roll call vote.

There was discussion regarding the funding of the County Administrator and where the funding was to come from. Saunders states the money from the Capital Improvement Fund was intended to be used to fund this position. The money has now been used for another purpose and not available. Chairman Gocken states we will be voting on Bill Spencer's motion at this time and a roll call vote is called:

**YES:** Spencer, Swanson, Colson, Gouker, Heuer, Hoekstra and Gocken

**NO:** Huntley, Kenney, Nye, Pleniewicz, Remhof, Rice, Saunders, Scholl, Stahl, White, Zuehl, Bauer, Brooks, Clayton, Colbert and Horner

**ABSENT:** Hopkins

The motion is defeated on a roll call vote.

Stahl makes the motion that the Personnel and Salary Committee, with consultation of various department heads, recommends that the Ogle County Board at this time approve a motion to

hire a county administrator and request the finance committee to include such an administrator in the 2005 - 2006 budget year. Horner seconds. Colson makes the motion to table this until the September County Board meeting. White seconds. White says we just received this information in our packets a couple of days ago and would like more time to review the information. He also states it is a big mistake for this county board to force funding of this without dedicated funds or a source for the funds. Gouker states we do not know what is going to happen with the ComEd assessment. Gouker asks why do we have to rush and mandate funding for this tonight without knowing if we can support it. A roll call vote is called:

**YES:** Kenney, Nye, Pleniweicz, Remhof, Rice, Saunders, Scholl, Spencer, Stahl, Swanson, White, Zuehl, Brooks, Clayton, Colbert, Colson, Gouker and Heuer

**NO:** Bauer, Hoekstra, Horner and Huntley

**ABSENT:** Hopkins

The motion carries on a roll call vote.

**Long Range Planning**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Update on progress

Jerry Guy informs the board of the various updates on the building of the Judicial Center:

- The concrete work will be done by Friday
- The aluminum entryway will be completed
- Courtroom 2302 will be available for viewing
- The elevators will be available
- Probation will be available
- Having trouble getting Cherry paneling

Nye asks when the dedication will be held -  
Gouker states the dedication will be August 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Change Orders

Jerry Guy explains the change orders to the board:

- ✓ #005-03: JP Cullen & Sons - (\$37,500)
- ✓ #006-01: HLM Steel Fabrication - (\$11,700)
- ✓ #007-02: Sjostrom & Sons - (\$15,000)
- ✓ #007-03: Sjostrom & Sons - (\$27,000)
- ✓ #008-01: McDermaid Roofing Co - (\$7,500)
- ✓ #009-01: Rock Valley Glass - (\$4,000)
- ✓ #010-01: Superior Drywall - (\$11,055)
- ✓ #018-01: Mechanical, Inc - (\$15,000)
- ✓ #019-02: Mechanical, Inc - (\$5,543.30)
- ✓ #022-02: Kelso-Burnett - \$5,475

TOTAL credit : (\$129,323.30)

Bills for approval

Gouker moves to approve payment of the expenditures from the Judicial Center Project Fund in the amount of \$637,088.63 minus \$18,309 for Dynamic Horizons to be paid from the Long Range Capital Improvement Fund. Remhof seconds. Gouker explains the furniture invoice to the board. The motion carries on a voice vote.

Master Gardeners

Heuer states the Master Gardeners have been contacted by St Paul's Lutheran Church regarding landscaping. St Paul's will be re-landscaping the area around the church which abuts the sidewalk of the Judicial Center to match our landscaping.

**Liquor Commission**

No minutes

New License

Chairman Gocken announces the liquor license for Expresslane Gas & Food Mart in Grand Detour has been approved and issued.

**Executive Committee**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Change Orders

Chairman Gocken moves to approve the 10 change orders with a credit of \$129,323.30, Remhof seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

**Chairman Comments**

Chairman Gocken reminds the board of information included in the packets regarding Leadership Dialogues. Chairman Gocken says she and Vice-Chairman Clayton have attended a similar seminar and they were very impressed with the presentation.

Chairman Gocken has received a letter from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency regarding the consideration of the Chana School to be placed on the National Register. The information will be filed in the County Clerk's Office, if anyone wishes to attend.

Chairman Gocken has also received information for payment from the Intergovernmental Agency and this will be turned into the Treasurer's Office.

Chairman Gocken reminds board members of the Rural Subdivision meeting which will be held August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Farm Bureau Bldg on Pines Rd in Oregon.

Chairman Gocken says she will have back surgery on September 1, 2005, and Vice-Chairman Clayton will be taking care of county business.

**Communications**

- Sales Tax for May, 2005 was \$27,069.24 and \$67,111.06
- Sales Tax for May, 2004 was \$27,943.57 and \$66,625.16
- IDNR - Magellan Pipeline Co - Bank Stabilization

**Unfinished Business**

**New Business**

**Public Comments**

Spencer reads off amounts which would be cut from the various departments if a county administrator were to be funded. Saunders asks about the consideration of an IT person? Spencer says there is no money in the budget for an IT person, there is money (\$50,000) for an AS/400 in the Sheriff's Department, \$1,250 for travel for the Finance Committee, \$10,000 for Personnel & Salary, removed \$5,000 for the Fair Board and added \$1,000 to the board members salary.

Brooks asks board members to please provide concerns and/or opinions to the Personnel & Salary Committee in writing. The committee would like to have this information to provide answers next month.

Colson states the communication problem between Long Range Planning and the Buildings and Grounds Committee was addressed and the Chairman of the Buildings and Grounds Committee was made an ex-officio member of the Long Range Planning Committee.

**Motion to Adjourn**

At 7:15 p.m., Rice moves to adjourn the August Ogle County Board meeting until Tuesday, September 20, 2005, at 5:30 p.m., Remhof seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Betty Gocken  
Chairman Ogle County Board

Attest: Rebecca Huntley, Ogle County Clerk &  
Ex-officio Clerk of the Ogle County Board