

Proceedings of the Ogle County Board Meeting
October 21, 2008

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

Call to Order

Chairman Rice calls the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll call shows Gouker and Messer are absent. The Invocation is given by Barnes and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Rice asks for a motion to approve the September 16, 2008 Ogle County Board meeting minutes. Bowers moves to approve the September 16, 2008 Ogle County Board meeting minutes. Horner seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Approval of Reports

Chairman Rice asks for a motion to accept the reports of the Ogle County/Recorder and Treasurer. Kenney moves to accept the reports as filed, Nye seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Presentation – Circuit Clerk Marty Typer – Self Help Center

A press conference was held today regarding a new Self Help Center located at the Judicial Center and accessible at Ogle County Libraries. This is an online service which allows individuals to do “Pro Se Activity” and locate forms and file documents with the Court System.

Vacancies –

Chairman Rice announces the following vacancies -

- Board of Health – 2 vacancies (1 applicant is required to be a Dentist)
- Mental Health “708” Board – 2 unexpired terms end 12/31/2011
- Mental Health “708” Board – 3 vacancies

Application deadline for these vacancies will be
Wednesday, November 26, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. in the County Clerk’s Office

Appointment –

Forreston Fire Protection District (R-2008-1001)

Chairman Rice presents Resolution 2008-1001 for the Appointment of Alan W. Ranz to the Forreston Fire Protection District for an unexpired term which ends April 20, 2010. White moves to approve the appointment resolution as presented, Bowers seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Zoning – Resolution 2008-1002 – Support Rock River Reclamation District FPA

Hopkins presents Resolution 2008-1002 to Support the Rock River Reclamation District Facilities Planning Area expansion for Southern Winnebago and Northern Ogle County. Hopkins moves to approve the Resolution as presented, Boes seconds. Chairman Rice states this is to expand sanitary sewer service to an Industrial Park area near our County line. Hopkins states there is no cost to Ogle County and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Hopkins states in the next few weeks a Grain Facility just North of Polo will be going before the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. Hopkins states this facility will be very beneficial to the area. Chairman Rice states if the facility qualifies, a resolution regarding Tax Abatement may come before the County Board.

Public Comments –

White announces there will be a meeting tonight at the Oregon Coliseum at 7:00 p.m. regarding the Concealed Weapon Carry Referendum.

Don Conn addresses the County Board regarding a letter to the editor written by Sharon McLane regarding the renovation of the courtroom. The letter states the courtroom could be used for not only monthly County Meetings, but also for historical tours, educational events, mock trials, business meetings, social events, weddings and receptions. Conn wants to know if the board has changed their position and begin renting out the Courthouse? He feels the people of the County are being misled on what they are voting on. Chairman Rice states the County has not approved any rental facilities at the Old Courthouse.

Ogle County Claims – Clerk reads the claims:

- Payments in Vacation – September 2008 \$109,411.59
- County Board Payments - October 2008 - \$95,864.12
- County Highway Fund – \$131,668.39

Bowers moves to approve the claims as read, Nye seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following committee minutes have been placed on exhibit: 911 ETS Board, Blackhawk Hills RC&D, Executive and State’s Attorney, Finance and Insurance, HEW & Solid Waste, Ill Assoc of Co Bd Members, Juvenile & Probation/Judiciary & Circuit Clerk, LRP-Courthouse Renovations, Mental Health Board, Personnel & Salary - County Clerk, Planning & Zoning – Supervisor of Assessments, Road & Bridge and Sheriff & Coroner/Buildings & Grounds/IT Committee and Tri-County Opportunities.

The following committees had no minutes to file: Board of Health, Byron Dragway, GIS Committee, Land-Use Task Force, LRP –Emergency Operations Center, Liquor Commission, Regional Planning Commission, Safety Committee and UCCI/ICRMT.

Executive Committee

Minutes Placed on Exhibit

Resolution 2008-1003

Chairman Rice presents Resolution 2008-1003 authorizing payment of \$103,631.17 for the Courthouse Remodeling Project. Horner makes the motion to approve Resolution 2008-9007 as presented, Nye seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Resolution 2008-1004

Chairman Rice presents Resolution 2008-1004 authorizing the Ogle County Board to enter into a contract with Springsted to perform the search for the new Ogle County Administrator. Hopkins moves to approve Resolution 2008-1004 and approve the contract with Springsted as Amended and Colbert seconds. Colson thinks it is premature to conduct a National Search and says we should conduct a Regional Search. Colson states we should look for someone within the area who would stay with the County. Williams asks about the “fee not to exceed \$15,000 plus direct out of pocket expenses” - is there a cap or what are we estimating as a total cost. Chairman Rice states he has talked to five other Counties who have used Springsted – there expenses ran between \$17,500 and \$19,000 total. Some of those expenses are a credit and background check – social meeting for the County Board and staff with the final applicants. Chairman Rice states none of the Counties went over \$19,000 to have Springsted conduct the search. Springsted has reduced their fee of \$17,000 to \$15,000 because Springsted will conduct telephone conferencing instead of personal travel to hold down expenses. Williams asks if there is a “Finders Fee” to find a candidate? Chairman Rice states no there will not be a Finders Fee. Williams comments on the cost savings information he received from Chairman Rice – Williams would like to see more of an analysis on the cost savings. White states the Personnel Committee handled the search for the County Administrator last time and would like to have the Personnel Committee or an appointed Committee to handle this search again. Chairman Rice states if we get staff from within – he is afraid of the political implications. If we hire an outside company to perform this

search the applicant that will be chosen will be based on background, resume and experience. Boes states the financial information he received regarding cost savings showed one-time items and not a cost from the overall budget for the county. Boes states he didn't see where the Administrator cut costs on a day-to-day basis. Chairman Rice states you would need to talk to Department Heads because they are the ones who saw the savings. Swanson states as a 10 year "survivor" on the Sheriff and Finance Committees – he can't say enough for having a professional Administrator help us. Swanson states the past two years with the County Administrator has been a cake walk compared to the years past. Horner calls for a Roll Call vote. Chairman Rice states Board Members will be receiving information from Springsted via e-mail for members who have e-mail and by mail for the others. There will be updates received from Springsted which will be forwarded to you by the Clerk's Office. The Roll Call vote is taken:

YES: Diehl, Gronewold, Hopkins, Horner, Huntley, Kenney, Nye, Scholl, Stahl, Swanson, Bauer, Bowers, Brooks, Colbert and Rice

NO: Colson, Heuer, Kilker, White, Williams, Barnes and Boes

ABSENT: Gouker and Messer

The motion to approve R-2008-1004 carries on a roll call vote.(Placed on file)

Supervisor of Assessments Minutes place on exhibit

Resolution 2008-1005 Hopkins presents Resolution 2008-1005 requesting an extension from the Board of Review. Hopkins moves to approve R-2008-1005 as presented, Heuer seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Sheriff and Coroner –
Buildings and Grounds –
IT Committee**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Resolution 2008-1006 Horner presents Resolution 2008-1006 regarding Tree Removal – Horner states the lowest bid from Aurand was awarded; however, he had some health problems and cannot fulfill the bid. The next lowest bid was from Grover's in the amount of \$1,790.00. Horner moves to approve Resolution 2008-1006 and award the bid to Grover's in the amount of \$1,790.00 to be funded from Buildings and Grounds. Bowers seconds. Chairman Rice states this is the first phase of preserving the trees around the Courthouse Square – the second phase next fall we will have an arborist check out the trees, recommend trimming and fertilize to give the trees more light. Chairman Rice states the two larch pines that have been here since the courthouse was built will not be touched. The pine tree by the flag pole was planted by the Boy Scouts and will be replaced by the County. The Boy Scouts of Oregon will be involved with the reestablishment of the tree. The motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

**Long Range Planning
Courthouse Remodeling**

Minutes placed on exhibit

Update

Stahl states all the information presented at the last meeting was included in the County Board Packets:

- Modular Unit information
- Update Timeline from Dennis Vovos
- Geo-thermal cost analysis
- History of Washington Grove Church – pews

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Stahl states the next meeting will be held on Friday, November 14th at 4 p.m. Chairman Rice states the pews coming from the Washington Grove Church are more than we agreed to and they will be stored at the Health Department.

Chairman Rice states Bob Gingerich visited him today and inquired about a wood carving which used to hang behind the Chairman. Colson asks if this was a large wood carving in the shape of Ogle County? Colson and Barnes remember seeing the plaque hanging in the courthouse, but have not seen it in years. Chairman Rice states the County Board at the time paid for the carving out of their own pockets.

White suggests since construction costs have dropped considerably and would like to see the project postponed for better construction costs down the road. Chairman Rice asks how long do we wait? White does not know but would like to see the project back up 6 months and see if there is any savings.

Finance and Insurance

Minutes placed on exhibit

Truth in Taxation Hearing

Chairman Rice announces a Truth in Taxation Hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Board Room at the Old Courthouse. Treasurer Coffman states when reviewing the Levies – the County was going to be over 5% of last year's extension and the County is required to hold the hearing. Coffman states in the prior year we did not extend for the Senior Social Services Levy and Cooperative Extension Levy and adding them back in pushes us over the 5%. If these were not added back in – the County would be at about 3 ½% increase on the extension.

Bauer asks if the board members would forego the meeting per diem for the Truth in Taxation Hearing. There was discussion regarding this and it was stated the board members cannot turn down payment but they can pay it back or donate the payment. County Clerk Huntley suggests any board member who would like to do this – to contact the State's Attorney.

Chairman Rice informs the board members the Closed Session listed on the Agenda tonight will be held on Tuesday after the Truth in Taxation Hearing. State's Attorney Roe says they are still working on the agreement.

Chairman's Comments -

- Colson informs the board NITT will make a presentation at the County Board Meeting in November.
- Chairman Rice Thanks the staff, members of the Board, the County Clerk's Office and Treasurer's Office for finalizing the Budget.
- There will be a special Town Hall Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30th at the White Rock Twp Building. This will be a community meeting for the residents of Kings regarding the upgrading of the sewer and septic systems.
- Chairman Rice says the Rockford Airport would like to establish a route to Ft. Myers, Florida. You can e-mail the airport to support their effort.
- Chairman Rice informs the board of the Village of Progress Banquet to be held on November 12, 2008.

- Barnes announces there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Rock River Center which will be held on Saturday at 10 a.m. across from the Nursing Home and behind M&M grocery store.
- Heuer discusses the Seminars which some County Board members attended in Springfield – if you Google “The Living Room Candidate” you can view every TV Commercial produced since 1952 for a Presidential Election.
- Heuer also says to look pending litigation which will affect us - SB2654 which will require municipalities to institute an International Building Code if they do not have a Building Code.

Public Comments –

Unfinished Business –

New Business –

Communications –

- Sales Tax for July 2008 was \$33,093.76 and \$78,949.86
- Sales Tax for July 2007 was \$33,486.44 and \$67,306.79

Motion to Adjourn

At 6:20 p.m., Nye made the motion to adjourn the October Ogle County Board meeting until October 28, 2008. Colson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

W. Ed Rice
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
Truth in Taxation Hearing
October 28, 2008

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

Call to Order

Chairman Rice calls the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll call shows Williams is absent. The Roll Call is followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation -

Treasurer Coffman distributes and reviews the Comparison of Levies with the board members. Coffman explains last year Ogle County did not levy for the Senior Social Levy and the Co-Operative Extension Levy. This was due to the objections from Exelon – they were advised not to levy for these funds. We are including these two funds in the levies for 2008 which is included in the FY2009 Budget. This put the County over the 5% increase and we are required to hold a Truth in Taxation Hearing. Chairman Rice states the reason Ogle County did not levy for these funds last years was due to the issues of the Tax Objection from Exelon regarding verbiage of the original Referendum in 1988 which was approved by the voters. Colson asks if the payments to the Social Senior Services and Co-Operative Extension were paid from the County's \$.27 General Fund Levy last year. Coffman states some of the money came from the General Fund levy and some reserves. Gouker questions the process in which the money for these funds was included in the General Fund versus the levy. Gouker was under the impression the county had levied the full amount for these services. Coffman states the county did not collect the money through the levy process and we did not collect all of the money. Gouker says the reason we are having this hearing tonight is not because of the Senior Social Services and the Co-Operative Extension Levies – it is because we have a higher County General Levy. He also says he discussed this at the Finance Committee – he doesn't think its right for the 11% increase of the County General Fund when we are in the time of a recession. Boes would like to know what are the "Interfund Transfers" which are referenced in the Budget document. Coffman explains the County Officers Fund – this is money coming from the various departments that generate fees – County Clerk & Recorder – Treasurer, Circuit Clerk, etc... Coffman refers Boes to look at the Treasurer's Report which are included in the monthly reports for the County Board Meetings. Barnes asks about the PILOT payment located in the document. Coffman states that will be explained at the next meeting following this one.

Chairman Rice informs the board members the Budget Hearing will be held before the County Board Meeting on November 18, 2008. County Clerk Huntley states the FY2009 Budget document is located on the Internet as well as a hard copy on the counter in her office.

Public Testimony –

- ❖ Chairman Rice states there is a statement from Jan Schmidt located on your desks – she could not attend the meeting.
- ❖ Ron Quest – Rochelle – We need to draw the line and cut costs and jobs – not increase property taxes. The average person cannot afford the taxes on their houses – He is looking at selling his house and buy a fixer-upper just so he can afford the taxes.
- ❖ Robert Saul – Oregon – not in attendance
- ❖ John Carbaugh – Rural Polo – We are in a depression and it doesn't make sense to increase taxes. He states jobs are going down and income is going down. Why spend \$9 million to remodel this courthouse when you can build a new building on property owned by the County for about \$2 to \$3 million. The County could sell this courthouse to someone to put

the property back on the tax roll. He says Elected Officials are elected to represent the interests of the people of Ogle County and not your own interests. The Elected Officials should remember this when the next election comes up.

Chairman Rice asks there is any other Public Testimony. There being none he moves to Public Comments.

Public Comments –

Chairman Rice asks if there any Public Comments. There being none, he entertains a motion to adjourn this meeting.

Motion to Adjourn

At 5:53 p.m., Swanson makes the motion to adjourn the Truth in Taxation Hearing and move into a Special Session of the Ogle County Board. Kenney seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

W. Ed Rice
Chairman - Ogle County Board

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

Proceedings of the Special Ogle County Board Meeting
October 28, 2008

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

Call to Order

Chairman Rice calls the meeting to order at 5:54 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll call shows Nye and Williams are absent. Since we opened the Truth in Taxation Hearing with the Pledge of Allegiance; we will go straight to the next meeting.

Closed Session –

At 5:56 p.m., Chairman Rice asks for a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss the Intergovernmental Agencies Agreement with Exelon per 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11). Kenny makes the motion to go into Closed Session, Scholl seconds and a roll call vote is taken:

YES: Diehl, Gouker, Gronewold, Heuer, Hopkins, Horner, Huntley, Kenney, Kilker, Messer, Scholl, Stahl, Swanson, White, Barnes, Bauer, Boes, Bowers, Brooks, Colbert, Colson and Rice
NO: None
ABSENT: Nye and Williams

The motion to go into Closed Session carries on a roll call vote.

Open Session –

At 6:31 p.m., the County Board returns to Open Session.

Resolution – 2008-1007 – Intergovernmental Agencies Agreement with Exelon

Heuer reads the motion in Resolution form (R-2008-1007) as follows: “Ogle County has full power and authority to enter into, execute, and deliver the settlement agreement and to perform the transactions, covenants, obligation, and undertakings described therein, and authorizes the Chairman of Ogle County and the State’s Attorney of Ogle County to execute such transactions.” Bauer seconds and a roll call vote is taken:

YES: Diehl, Gouker, Gronewold, Heuer, Hopkins, Horner, Huntley, Kenney, Kilker, Messer, Scholl, Stahl, Swanson, White, Barnes, Bauer, Boes, Bowers, Brooks, Colbert, Colson and Rice
NO: None
ABSENT: Nye and Williams

The motion to approve Resolution 2008-1007 carries on a roll call vote.(Placed on file)

Public Comments –

County Clerk Huntley wishes to extend a Happy Birthday to Curtis Cook who is celebrating his 47th Birthday. Bobbie Colbert is also celebrating a Birthday today - her 73rd.

Motion to Adjourn

At 6:34 p.m., Bowers makes the motion to adjourn the Special Ogle County Board Meeting until Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.. Bauer seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

W. Ed Rice
Chairman - Ogle County Board

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

Special Ogle County Board Meeting

October 28, 2008