

Executive Committee Meeting Report (submitted 01-07-08)
Saturday, January 5, 2008, 8:00 A.M., North Court Jury Room

Members present: John Sovanski, Jim Eccher, Jim Kursock, Jesse Crouch, Tom Nicholson, Jan May, Ann DeSmith, Pat Ripperger and Tom Steele. Members absent: Kippy Nelson. Others present: Dick Erickson, County Administrator.

Chairman Sovanski called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

The agenda was approved with the addition under IV. New Business: B. Tourism Resolution. Member May made a motion to approve the December 8, 2007 Executive Committee meeting minutes as printed, Member Steele seconded, all were in favor and motion carried.

The following Standing Committees presented information and/or an overview of reports to be submitted at the January 8, 2008 County Board meeting: Planning/Development, Communications, Public Safety, Health & Social Services, Transportation and Administration. (see Committee reports) The Finance Committee will meet at 8:15 a.m. in Room 303C on Monday, January 7, 2008.

The Committee concurred with the Administration Committee's recommendation that the \$30,000.00 capital improvement grant #08-203079 be applied to the parking lot construction project.

Chairman Nicholson and other County Officials to be designated will develop an Animal Control Department Development Plan establishing measurable goals and a defined reporting structure. The Committee agreed that Gail Ripka, Health Department Administrator, be contacted to request that the Health Department provide daily reporting supervision of the Animal Control Warden. Chairman Nicholson reported an organization chart is being assembled identifying the County's current structure. The chart will be used in a review of possible changes in the management structure.

The Committee continued their discussion regarding election information from the Illinois State Board of Elections and the State Statutes as it relates to a referendum for a special county retailers' occupation tax for public safety. Member Crouch moved to recommend the County Board consider at the February board meeting the submittal of a public question regarding a special one-half percent (0.50%) county retailer's occupation tax for public safety on the November 4, 2008 election ballot, Member Eccher seconded, all were in favor and motion carried. (see attached Resolution) A summarization of the public safety tax will be prepared and distributed to Board Members prior to the February meeting.

The Committee discussed a draft Resolution Of Support For the Mandatory Federal Funding For Veterans Health Care. Member Nicholson moved to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution Of Support For The Mandatory Federal Funding For Veterans Health Care, Member Crouch seconded, all were in favor and motion carried. (see attached Resolution)

The Committee discussed the proposed County/Colona Special Service Area Tax Agreement held over from the November meeting and the State's Attorney 's legal opinion regarding the said Agreement. The Committee agreed that Colona be informed that no action would be taken on the request.

The Committee discussed the Smoke Free Illinois Act, Department Officials recommendation that smoking be banned on Courthouse property and the State's Attorney's opinion regarding the Act's impact on County buildings/grounds. The Committee was informed that the Sheriff has removed all cigarette receptacles on Courthouse property. The Administration Committee recommends the County Board ban smoking on Courthouse property.

Member Nicholson moved to recommend to the County Board approval of a Resolution continuing A Cooperative Tourism Agreement Between Henry County And The Henry County Tourism Bureau, Member Ripperger seconded, all were in favor and motion carried. (see attached Resolution)

It was the consensus of the Executive Committee that John Sovanski, the County Board's HCEDP representative, convey to the Partnership that it is the position of the County not to support the expansion of large dairy farm facilities in Henry County.

The next Executive Committee meeting was set for Saturday, February 9, 2008, at 8:00 A.M., in the North Court Jury Room 102J, Henry County Courthouse.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Erickson, County Administrator