

Members Present

Mr. Tripp, Mr. Stauffenberg, Ms. McBride, Ms. Barber, Mr. Washington, Ms. Schmidt, Mr. Tholen, Mr. James, Mr. Hess, and Mr. Hubert

Members Absent

Mr. Olthoff

In Attendance

- **Board Members**

Mr. Bossert, Mr. Liehr, and Ms. Bernard

- **Department Heads**

- **Media**

Leigh Marcotte

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Stauffenberg, at 9:00 a.m. Quorum present.

Mr. Stauffenberg asked if anyone had any objections to jumping around on the agenda because some people are here who cannot stay for the entire meeting. No one objected.

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of Minutes – July 28, 2010

A motion to approve the July 28, 2010, minutes was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Tripp. Motion carried.

4. Revolving Fund

- **City of Kankakee – Recovery Zone Bond**

Mr. Van Mill stated that K3 County has available to its communities a recovery zone bond program. Several months ago the County Board declared the entire county a recovery zone area and made the entire county eligible for the bond funds. There are two pots of money - one for public projects and one for private projects. Several months ago we allocated our public funds to BBCHS for their construction project and the other portion to KRMA for upgrades to their sewer system. Through the process, KRMA has notified us in writing that they wish not to pursue those funds which were about \$2.7 million. Those funds are still available today and the City of K3 is requesting the funds for projects that the City will give the committee the background on. These funds will sunset and they will go back to some pot on December 31 of this year. To date, the City is the only public entity that has requested the funds. Last Friday, August 20, the Revolving Loan Fund Committee met and recommended 3 to 0 to allocate this portion of our bond cap to the City of Kankakee.

Mr. Sims, Utility Superintendent for the City of Kankakee, stated that the actual use of this would be for revenue bonds and the revenue bonds would be used for what the City calls the Environmental Services Utility. Recently they have combined the municipal utility with public works which is now called Environmental Services Utility. Their use for these bonds would be in their ongoing program to upgrade the sanitary sewer system within the City. They have spent about \$6 million in the last 5-6 years in two increments. This would be the third phase. There really is no end to fixing up sanitary sewers because some of them date back to 1880-1890.

Mr. James asked what the County's obligation is in making this available to the City of Kankakee.

Mr. Van Mill stated that the County has to pass a resolution that allows this cap of our bond to be afforded to the City of Kankakee. We have no liability exposure other than that. The City still has to be credit worthy and have the ability to go out into the bond market and secure that bond.

Mr. Tripp made a motion to approve the City of Kankakee taking advantage of this bond cap and Mr. Washington seconded it. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 11 ayes and 0 nays.

- **Pembroke Township**

Mr. Van Mill asked for this to be tabled and call for a special meeting after Labor Day before the next County Board Meeting.

Mr. Washington made a motion to approve tabling this and calling for a special meeting and Mr. Washington seconded it. Motion carried with a voice vote.

5. Subdivision

6. Transportation

- **IDOT – Capital Assistance Grant Application**

Mr. Lammey stated that about three weeks ago they received notice from the State of Illinois that they were awarded a grant to put bike racks on the front of the buses that provide rural transportation and then we informed that we needed to submit an application for the award that was just received. He would like a motion to allow the County Board Chairman to sign the application and the contract that will follow.

Mr. James made a motion to allow the County Board Chairman to sign the application and contract and Mr. Washington seconded it. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 11 ayes and 0 nays.

- **FY 2011 Unified Work Program**
- **FY2011 Transportation Improvement Program**
- **2040 Long-Range Transportation Plan**

Mr. Lammey handed out booklets and gave a presentation regarding the above three items. He reviewed and discussed them with the Committee.

7. Other Business

- **Appointment/Re-appointment to Kankakee County Regional Planning Commission Members (9)**

Mr. Van Mill stated that they have two new candidates, Beth Scanlon and David Stejkowski, for the KCRPC. He and Chairman Bossert met with them and asked them to come in and be introduced to the committee. They believe they are strong candidates and they recommend them to be placed on the KCRPC. Beth Scanlon and David Stejkowski introduced themselves to the committee and answered questions from the committee.

The members up for reappointment are Craig Bayston, Dave Bergdahl, Jeff Jarvis, Lisa Dugan, George Washington, Chad Miller, and Craig Blanchette.

Mr. Hess made a motion to appoint/reappoint all nine members to the KCRPC and Mr. Hubert seconded it. Motion carried.

Ms. Bernard asked what two board members they would be replacing. She asked if we had a breakdown of what percentage in the KCRPC represent the different industries such as real estate, construction, development, etc. She asked for a copy of that and the attendance record of the commissioners.

Mr. Van Mill stated that they are taking the places of Tim Schmidt and Bud Bates. He thinks there is a good diversity right now on the KCRPC.

Mr. Van Mill stated that he appreciates those who serve on the KCRPC. They do not get paid and they devote a lot of time to this. Their participation has been invaluable to the County.

Mr. Washington stated that we can go back and look at the number of hours that were committed by the individuals to the various issues that came up specifically the land fill issue and its complications. Those are things that run under the radar but are very important when it comes to the KCRPC. They work diligently to give good recommendations to the full county board for all issues regarding regional planning.

Mr. Stauffenberg thanked the new appointees for their willingness to serve.

- **Mobile Home Parks Safety – Storm Protection**

Ms. Bernard stated that she asked for this to be put on the agenda because we are in a high risk area for tornados. She has been doing some research and we are classified at the highest level of risk for wind damage and tornados. She believes we have more than 3500 mobile home units in this county and if a tornado hit any one of the mobile home parks in our county we would have a major disaster on our hands. She thinks that there are things that we can do to try to mitigate some of this. A county in Kansas requires individual storm shelters in mobile home parks. She would like to see if we could form some sort of subcommittee or have the Planning Department look into this and report back to us in 60-90 days. This is a good time of the year to get this started so we have something in place hopefully by next spring.

Mr. Van Mill stated that they will take what he put together several years ago and will do some assessments and then come back to the committee; they need to get some data first.

Mr. Bossert asked what the last time was that a mobile home park was sited in the unincorporated areas.

Mr. Van Mill stated that it has not been done in 25 years. The likelihood of doing so would be remote.

Ms. Bernard stated that if we find out that our hands are tied by the State then she thinks we take the next step as a Board and contact those state legislators that pass rules and laws that impact us.

- **Bank Owned Homes – Property Maintenance**

Ms. Schmidt stated that she has done some research on this subject and she obtained an ordinance from Memphis that dealt with bank owned properties. It is a responsible property ordinance that requires the properties to be registered with the local government. She wanted to introduce this because this is a good way to get them to be responsible for those properties. They have to register them; there is a fee for that to pay for whatever cost it incurs in the county. When they register they are required to disclose who is in charge, who has to be contacted if the grass needs to be cut, etc. This ordinance might be something we want to look at.

8. Old Business

Ms. Schmidt stated that there was something in the newspaper about the pallet company out on 2000 S Rd which we have had problems with before with the delegation agreement. There was a fire from illegal burning. She wondered if the IEPA has been contacted about this.

Ms. Barber stated that it was reported at the Criminal Justice Committee meeting that the Sheriff is handling it. She can give an update after the next Criminal Justice Meeting.

Mr. Bossert stated that the Sheriff's department has responded numerous times and it seems that a fire at that property is an occurrence every few months. It is to the point that the local fire department will not respond. In regards to the last incidence, deputies did respond and wrote up reports and referred it to the EPA and our local health department. Based on the history at that site, our staff is not going to set foot on the property. We are passing it up to a higher level and letting the EPA deal with it. It is a real frustrating situation out there. Locally, we have done what we can to investigate and respond. The question is "What is burning?" It is unclear what is going on.

Ms. Bernard asked if there was any ordinance or criminal law that we can apply to this situation. Is there anything we can do with the help of the State's Attorney?

Mr. Bossert stated that at this point the EPA is handling the matter and we are not involving our local staff at all other than to respond when there is a call of a fire and they will report that on to the EPA.

Mr. Bevis from the Health Department stated that there are local ordinances that deal with open burning and open dumping. In the event that the Health Department or Planning and Zoning is contacted about a fire event after the fact, when they get there for an investigation it is no longer burning and they have to try and determine what was burning and then typically a letter is sent to the owner asking for clean-up and asking them not to do it again. That usually ends the situation. In some cases if it is a second or third instance you can write a ticket and that seems to get the attention of most of the other people. That would process through the court system with the assistance of the State's Attorney here locally. In this situation, it was handled that way initially but it continued to take place, so through the delegation agreement (when it was in effect) Jim and Donna were trying to handle it. When the delegation was suspended, the matter was attempted to be referred to the EPA in this particular instance and likewise was a few weeks ago when it occurred again. He is under the direction from the administrator not to risk his staff's safety on this particular property. In this case it was referred to the EPA by both the Health Department and the police department.

Ms. Bernard asked if it would be possible that they could be accompanied by deputies to this site.

Mr. Bevis stated that is a possibility. In any situation that is deemed to be potentially hostile they can ask for the assistance of an officer. In this situation based upon the history it is believed if this individual was cited today he would be burning again and thumbing his nose at the Health Department, the State, and the EPA.

Ms. Schmidt stated that to her this is an obvious case of why we need more local control.

Ms. Bernard asked if Mr. Van Mill could come back with a report in 60 days with regards to the information Ms. Schmidt brought forth.

Mr. Van Mill stated that he would look at the information.

9. New Business

Ms. Schmidt asked if a discussion on Building Permits, Demolition, and Environmental Issues could be put on next month's agenda.

10. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:17 a.m. was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Washington. Motion carried.

Jim Stauffenberg, Vice-Chairman
Joanne Langlois, Executive Coordinator