

Members Present

Mr. Bossert, Mr. Liehr, Ms. Bernard, Ms. Schmidt, Mr. Tripp, Mr. LaGesse, Mr. James, Mr. Vickery, Mr. McLaren, Mr. Whitis, and Mr. Washington

Members Absent

In Attendance

- **Board Members**

- **Department Heads**

Kevin Duval, Bonnie Schaafsma, and Lori Gadbois

Others

Ed Meents

- **Media**

Leigh Marcotte and Dimitrios Kalantzis

1. Call to Order

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

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of Minutes – May 27, 2010

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. McLaren and seconded by Mr. James. Motion carried with a voice vote.

4. Presentations

5. Legislative

Ed Meents reviewed the pending Bills that are in Springfield. There are several that pertain to county government. He will leave copies of these Bills on the 5th floor for review. He reminded the committee of UCCI's Eagle Ridge Golf Outing & Seminar July 26 & 27.

6. Information Services

Mr. Duval did not have anything to report to the committee.

7. Health Department

Ms. Schaafsma stated that there is nothing new with regard to the budget. She was asked about the nuisance program at the Health Department by one of the committee members. They do various types of nuisances. The four most common types of nuisance complaints that they follow-up on based on code are related to food, sewage, solid waste, and animal or vector. To date, they have done 45 inspections, 33 of which have been closed out, and 12 are still open. Of those, 17 were food, 16 were solid waste, 9 were sewage, and 3 were related to animal and vector. They have had requests from county board members to follow up on certain things during the last month or two. According to code, their jurisdiction lies in the unincorporated areas of the County – that is where they can apply code. They are asking for some clarification of that from the State's Attorney's office, but in relation to these types of complaints their jurisdiction is in the unincorporated areas of the County, as they understand it. If it is within a village then they would refer to the village. If those agencies are not in the village, they can still work with them. That is where they are looking for clarification.

Mr. Bossert asked about an open dumping issue such as garbage piled up in the backyard. Do they have jurisdiction no matter where?

Ms. Schaafsma stated that that is where they are asking for clarification.

Ms. Bernard stated that she has been working with Bryan Kennedy on an issue in the Village of Aroma Park. He had mentioned that he could apply larvicide where the standing water is. Does the County have precedence over that?

Ms. Schaafsma stated that some villages have mosquito abatement districts and they work with them. Through the vector grant, they have been able to assist them in providing the actual briquettes; although, that has been cut back drastically.

Ms. Bernard stated that the railroad said that the standing water issue started after construction on Lowell Road. Mr. Piekarczyk confirmed that the construction did not affect the drainage, but he did mention something about that if they were to get the water moving it could violate the Illinois drainage laws. What takes precedence? Cleaning up the larvae or the drainage laws?

Ms. Schaafsma stated that the Health Department does not have rules on that; they refer to county code. They are working with the IEPA on this issue, also. They would immediately treat the problem with larvicide. This year the water has been extreme.

Ms. Bernard stated that maybe we could get the State's Attorney to let us know where we go if the drainage act prohibits us from making changes to get water flowing.

Mr. Bossert asked Ms. Schaafsma how much of a budget do they have for the mosquito larvicide.

Ms. Schaafsma stated they have two things for mosquitoes. They have a two-year grant that has been renewed for the last 15 years that gives them about \$9000 a year for overall vector control. They have had as much as \$18,000 a year under the Used Tire Act for specifically West Nile control, but they did not receive any of that. They have been told that they will not receive any of that for the coming year.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that they are happy to provide additional information. If the county board members have questions or need information, please feel free to call them. If it is brought up at a meeting she would respectfully ask that they be given a heads up or ask that it be put on the agenda so she can be prepared and come with the information.

8. Pledge for Life

9. Schools

10. Veterans Assistance Commission

- **Monthly Report**

The Committee reviewed the May 2010 VAC report.

A motion to accept the "VAC Report for May 2010" was made by Mr. Whitis and seconded by Mr. Washington. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Mr. Campbell was not present. Mr. Bossert stated that they had applied for another lottery scratch-off grant which they did receive. It was for \$45,000 and the money is gone already. That has been a popular program for the Veterans Assistance Commission.

11. Personnel/HR Issues

Ms. Mackin was not present. Mr. Bossert stated that they are working on the health insurance bid and should be taking that back to the Finance Committee this next month.

12. Administrative Issues

a. Reappointments/Appointments/Resignations

- Resignation of Steven Wirth as Commissioner on the Raymond Drainage District
- Resignation of Leo Webber from the Cabery Area Fire Protection District
- Appointment of Patrick Koerner to the Cabery Area Fire Protection District
- Reappointment of Karen Schmidt to the K3 County Board of Health
- Reappointment of David Sargeant to the Cabery Area Fire Protection District
- Reappointment of Thomas Caise to the St. Anne Fire Protection District
- Reappointment of Steve Cote to the Board of Review

Mr. Bossert announced and accepted the resignations.

The committee interviewed Pat Koerner.

A motion to combine and accept all reappointments and the appointment of Pat Koerner was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Liehr. Motion carried with a voice vote.

b. Openings

- Three Openings on the Ethics Commission
- One Opening on the METRO Board
- One Opening on the Raymond Drainage District

Mr. Bossert announced the openings listed above.

c. Resolutions

- **Approval of 2011 Holidays**

Mr. Vickery made a motion to adopt the 2011 Holiday schedule and Mr. LaGesse seconded it. Motion passed.

13. Information Items

- **April, 2010 Executive Director Report of the K3 County Convention & Visitors Bureau**

Mr. Bossert stated that this is for the committee to review.

Mr. Bossert stated that a letter from UCCI was handed out to the committee expressing an opinion as to whether a county board member can be excluded from a committee meeting. The answer is that you cannot exclude a board member from any committee; however, they say that it is a violation of the Open Meeting Act if additional members who are not serving on the committee are present at the meeting and answer questions or become involved in discussion. They can ask questions but they cannot participate in deliberation. An option would be to treat each committee meeting as a special board meeting which means you would have to give notice and 1/3 of the members sign a request for a meeting. He is offering this for the committee to maul over and think about. He thinks we have been careful about our Opening Meeting Act procedures and this raises a question. We have not restricted board members from participating in committees thus far. It is something we need to think about as we move forward.

Ms. Bernard stated that this could potentially stop information from being shared that might be pertinent to the issue; most of the decisions and fact finding are made at the committee level. She is uncomfortable with this opinion. She would like to see Lisa Madigan weigh in on this. She thinks it could affect decisions negatively.

Mr. Bossert stated that this has prompted some discussion and maybe we will get an official opinion.

Mr. James asked if this includes appointed committee such as review committees.

Mr. Bossert stated that he thinks it would apply to those, as well. It warrants a clarification.

Mr. Bossert stated that in response to the concerns of this committee we will not move forward with the website agreement issue that was discussed last month. He found out that they had already entered into an agreement with the City of Kankakee so there are already salesmen in the area selling ads for this website.

Mr. Bossert reminded the committee that next Tuesday, June 29, there is a 9:00 Special Board Meeting to vote on the replacement for our Circuit Clerk.

14. Old Business

15. New Business

Mr. McLaren stated that he would like a copy of the Bills that Mr. Meents referred to that would impact the Sheriff, Coroner, State's Attorney, and Probation.

Mr. Bossert told the committee to watch their email because the UCCI and the Illinois Association of County Board Members are constantly sending out information on legislative updates.

Mr. Vickery stated, in response to the article in the newspaper of the 127 bags of asbestos that was dumped in a field, that this has been his fear - that the rural areas would become a dumping ground. He has witnessed much of this over the past years. Without enforcement on a county level, he voices his concern about the fact that people can dump stuff in the rural areas. He hopes some day that we can move forward into county enforcement.

Mr. Bossert stated that he would like to point some credit to our own Planning and Code Enforcement Office. They did respond to the initial call about the apparent asbestos being dumped, investigated, brought in the EPA and in the end the process worked.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that the original call came to the Health Department and they contacted Planning and they went out together to investigate. They contacted EPA and oversaw the pickup of this. It was a joint effort; the system is working.

Mr. Bossert stated that he didn't mean to overlook the Health Department. It was team effort and they are working together on these reported issues.

Mr. Washington stated that this is an ongoing concern and has been for many years. He has chased down refuse trucks going out to Pembroke in the open areas. The troubling part of it is that some property owners make agreements with these waste dumpers. Vigilance is extremely important.

Ms. Bernard stated that we are paying Mr. Pinski for the Health Department building. She asked, in the event that fines are issued, do we have some safeguards in place to make sure that we don't pay him any money we may owe him while he owes us money.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that we are no longer paying Mr. Pinski; he was paid.

Mr. Bossert stated that is true and this is a federal charge which would not be related to county activity. It is dangerous territory when we get into legal questions and he would defer all that to our State's Attorney's office.

16. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 9:44 was made by Mr. LaGessee and seconded by Mr. James. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Mike Bossert, Chairman
Joanne Langlois, Executive Coordinator