

### **Members Present**

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

### **Members Absent**

Mr. Whitis and Mr. Bossert

### **In Attendance**

- **Board Members**

- **Department Heads**

Kevin Duval, Bonnie Schaafsma, Dick Campbell, Lynn Mackin, Roger Diercks, Sheriff Bukowski, and Lori Gadbois

### **Others**

Ed Meents and Brian Raetz

- **Media**

Leigh Marcotte

### **1. Call to Order**

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

### **2. Public Comment**

### **3. Approval of Minutes – July 29, 2010**

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

### **4. Presentations**

### **5. Legislative**

Ed Meents stated that there is not much to report this morning. On October 22 & 23, there will be a presentation of leadership awards and an education seminar sponsored by the University of Illinois at the Lincoln Museum. House Bill 5055 pertaining to home foreclosures was amendatorily vetoed and instead of being effective immediately it was amended to January 1, 2011. This bill could cost the County \$100,000.

Mr. Liehr stated that this is the bill that the County Board acted on in opposition to. If the bill becomes law, then the County could stand to lose the \$100,000. Now it is active again in terms of having to be acted on in the veto session so we may want to follow through with some more action.

Ms. Bernard asked if legislation has been introduced to address tornado safety for mobile home parks.

Mr. Meents stated that he did not know of any.

### **6. Information Services**

Mr. Duval stated that Ms. Schmidt had asked for information on the grant that Dekalb County received for putting broadband out to areas that now are not served. They were awarded just under \$12 million from a program from the federal government. It was not Dekalb County per se; they created a project with several governmental bodies, private sectors, and not-for-profit sectors. The lead organization was Northern Illinois. Dekalb was mainly there because it had to go through a government entity. It required hundreds of thousand dollars of infrastructure work to be done because it was intended to promote hiring people and putting broadband out to areas that now are now not served. It is a good project but in a down economy

when we are trying to keep our existing structure going, trying to rearrange monies that we don't have to start a new project is probably not something that we would want to start looking at doing. If they did not have Northern Illinois there is no way that the resources would have been there to do this. He looked into other grants but there is really nothing that helps a county or any governmental organization pay for the broadband that they have to use. It is a utility now and is required. There are some grants to expand broadband to rural areas but they require people to be hired and additional infrastructure to be built. Who has the funds to start a project like that?

## **7. Health Department**

Ms. Schaafsma stated that they are seeing more and more product recalls as manufacturers are being ever more stringent in their product testing. They have a 24/7 health alert network put out by the Illinois Department of Public Health that tells them of situations as they come up. They take different actions depending on what is needed. With the recent egg recall, they sent out their inspectors to all the retail facilities to make sure that they had those items off of their shelves and to make sure that they were aware of the recall. Keith Wojnowski, their supervising sanitarian, recently completed a stringent review, testing, and observation of his skills and is now a certified standardized food inspector. That is a 3-year certification and they have to have at least one of their staff have it. That means that he is standardized in how to do the inspections of the food establishments and he does the training of the other staff so they are all trained the same way. They are fortunate at the Health Department to have four members of their environmental health staff licensed. They are gearing up for flu season and will start the seasonal flu vaccinations which include the H1N1 vaccine in late September or early October. Last year the H1N1 vaccine was provided free of charge because of the outbreak; this year it will be part of the seasonal flu vaccine and there will be a \$25 charge. Medicare will be billed for the Medicare patients.

Mr. Washington asked if there have been any reports in the State of Illinois of the egg salmonella.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that there has not been any in our county and she does not recall any being in the State of Illinois.

Mr. Tripp asked if the inspectors found any retailer not complying with removing eggs from the egg recall.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that everybody complied.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that they did find a bird in Essex that tested for West Nile Virus which was a first since 2006. They did send out a PSA with the standard precautions which should be observed all the time.

Mr. James asked if there is any cost to us in the certifications; such as, a pay increase.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that there is not.

Ms. Bernard asked when the bird was found positive. How many birds have been tested this year for West Nile?

Ms. Schaafsma stated that she is not sure when the bird was picked up but the test just came back last week. She does not know the number that has been tested. The number that they are allowed to test is fewer than it has been in the past because the funding has been cut drastically for that program. She believes we are allowed to send in somewhere around 15 birds.

Ms. Bernard stated that a family in her district who lives near standing water found a dead bird several months ago and she spoke to someone at the Health Department and was discouraged from it being tested so the people just threw it out.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that it depends what kind of bird it is and what the cause of death of the bird appears to be. There are some guidelines.

Ms. Schaafsma stated that they pick up and test mosquitoes weekly from April through October and they have not had found any positive for West Nile. She believes the standing water that Ms. Bernard is referring to has been larvacided which is the best protection.

## **8. Pledge for Life**

## **9. Schools**

## **10. Veterans Assistance Commission**

- **Monthly Report**

The Committee reviewed the July 2010 VAC report.

Mr. LaGessee asked why the combined checking and IPTIP grew by \$80,000.

Mr. Campbell stated that it was from the tax distribution. What they received for the dental, eyeglass, and lottery grant was \$45,000 and they also received \$23,000 from KCCSI. They pay for the dental, eyeglass, and hearing aids out of the \$45,000 and then are reimbursed by the KCCSI grant for \$23,000.

**A motion to accept the “VAC Report for July 2010” was made by Mr. Vickery and seconded by Mr. Washington. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

## **11. Personnel/HR Issues**

Ms. Mackin invited all the committee members to come out to the Health Fair tomorrow from 9:00 to 3:30 out at the Health Department. Open Enrollment with Benetrac is from September 1 through September 10. There will be a computer up on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor if anybody needs to use it.

## **12. Administrative Issues**

### **a. Reappointments/Appointments/Resignations**

- Appointment of Jason O'Connor to the Raymond Drainage District

**Mr. Vickery made a motion to approve this appointment and Mr. Washington seconded it.**

Mr. James stated that he cannot support this because drainage districts of the taxing body and the people within a drainage districts are the sole people that support it and if we are going to allow outsiders to take on this position we are setting a precedent; this law was put into effect this way for that specific purpose. If a person doesn't live in the drainage district they can not serve on the drainage district. It has always been that way and he doesn't think we should make an exception to it. He is quite certain that drainage district is large enough that they can find a property owner or someone who is on the tax base of that drainage district to serve in that position.

Mr. Liehr stated that it is his understanding that they did have some difficulty finding someone who is interested in taking the position. He doesn't know all of the details. The responsibility of cleaning out the ditches is something that someone who is farming the area might take seriously.

Mr. James stated that we cannot supersede what was legislated. He doesn't think we have that authority and he doesn't think we should be stretching it to do it. He suggests that they go find someone that is a taxpayer. He thinks we are making a serious step in the wrong direction if we make this move.

Mr. LaGesse stated that the application letter states that he lives and farms in the Raymond District.

Mr. James stated that the letter from the lawyer states that he does not live in the district, but he farms 400 acres in the district. The law is very specific on a drainage district that you have to be a property owner and a tax payer in the district to serve on a commission.

Mr. Vickery stated the purpose of his motion was to open it up for discussion. The letter asks the County Board to waive the requirement of property ownership as permitted under 70 ILCS 605/4-3. He is not sure what that is but apparently Mr. Barman has done the research and found a way that it can be done.

**Mr. Tripp made a motion to send this to the State's Attorney and have them clarify this to see if we can do what they are asking us to do and Ms. Bernard seconded it. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

**Mr. Vickery withdrew his motion to appoint and Mr. Washington withdrew his second.**

**b. Openings**

- One Opening on the Manteno Drainage District #3
- One Opening on the Union Drainage District #1 of the Towns of Manteno & Sumner
- One Opening on the Momence & Yellowhead Drainage District #1
- Two Openings on the Union Drainage District #2 of the Towns of Ganeer & Momence
- One Opening on the Exline Creek Drainage District
- One Opening on the McGillivray Special Drainage District
- Three Openings on the Gar Creek Drainage District
- Two Openings on the Minnie Creek Drainage District
- One Opening on the Rockville Drainage District #1
- One Opening on the B.M. Lewis Drainage District Union Drainage District #1 of Sumner, Manteno, & Will
- Three Openings on the Manteno Drainage District #10
- One Opening on the Little Beaver Special Drainage District
- One Opening on the Canavan Drainage District
- Two Openings on the Grinnell Special Drainage District

Mr. Liehr announced that above openings.

**c. Resolutions**

- **New World System Renewal Contract**

Mr. Raetz from the Sheriff's Department stated that this contract renewal is for the New Worlds System that has been in place for five years. The contract is going to expire and there is a proposed 10% increase over the next three years which is within the original contract. This system is the system that is used to collect data between the officers in the field, dispatchers, records, CAD, mobile, etc.

Sheriff Bukowski stated that many years ago he was on a state-wide committee trying to obtain and purchase something state-wide. They recommended three companies with New World being one of them. The State never moved ahead but the County did. It is an excellent program. It is going to migrate back and forth from the Circuit Clerks's system to his. The local municipalities are allowed to get into the system.

Mr. Duval stated that this is one of the long term commitments that was done several years ago. The committee's options are to either renew this or send it back (which he does not advise the committee to do) to have the State's Attorney renegotiate to see if a lower price can be reached, which he does not believe would happen. There is no option of not doing it. The county has a multi-million dollar investment in this. This is the core to everything that has been done to the Integrated Justice System. The question is whether the price is agreeable; it is within the range that we all knew about. We have to have this.

**Mr. McLaren made a motion to approve the agreement and Mr. Vickery seconded it. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays.**

- **Intergovernmental Agreement for State Metro Plan**

Mr. Lammey stated that the State Department of Transportation has made \$5 million available to MPO's around the State for transportation and planning work. Our share of that \$5 million is \$45,701.00. There are three studies that they would like to do with this money:

1. Urban Human Services Transportation Plan Report
2. Audit of Traffic Safety Data Report
3. FY 2011 Commuter Transit Work Plan Report

It is 100% State money; no local match.

**Mr. LaGesse made a motion to approve the plan and Mr. McLaren seconded it. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 9 ayes and 0 nays.**

Mr. McLaren asked if we are getting information from all the municipalities with regards to the crash data.

Mr. Lammey stated that we have data for every crash in the State for the last six years that could be put on a GIS layer, not available to the public. It would only be available to that municipality.

Mr. Washington stated that he thinks we should take the option that does not include hiring a new employee.

Mr. Lammey stated that most of this will be consultant work and will not exceed the \$45,000.

### **13. Information Items**

### **14. Old Business**

### **15. New Business**

Mr. Vickery thanked the staff for including all the drainage districts in today's packet.

### **16. Adjournment**

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

Steve Liehr, Vice-Chairman    Joanne Langlois, Executive Coordinator