



CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – ELUC/ County Facilities/Policy
County of Champaign, Urbana, Illinois
Tuesday, March 6, 2012 – 6:00 p.m.

Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center
1776 E. Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois

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- F. Jail Space Improvement Project
1. Approval of Release of RFP for Consultant Services for Needs Assessment and Pre-Design Planning 60-75

G. Other Business

H. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

IX. Policy, Personnel & Appointments

A. Appointments/Reappointments

1. Lincoln Legacy Committee – One term ending 2/28/15
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B. County Administrator

1. Vacant Positions Listing (*provided for information only*)

C. Other Business

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D. Chair's Report

E. Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

X. Other Business

XI. Adjournment

1 **CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD**
2 **Committee of the Whole Minutes**

3
4 *Tuesday, February 7, 2012 – 6:00pm*
5 *Lyle Shields Meeting Room*
6 *1776 E. Washington St., Urbana, IL*
7

8 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alix, Ammons, Anderson, Berkson, Betz, Carter, Cowart, Esry,
9 Holderfield, James, Jay, Kurtz, Langenheim, Maxwell, McGinty, Michaels, O'Connor, Petrie,
10 Quisenberry, Richards, Rosales, Schroeder, Weibel
11

12 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bensyl, Moser
13

14 **OTHERS PRESENT:** John Hall (Zoning Administrator), Deb Busey (County
15 Administrator), Alan Reinhart (Facilities Director), Jeff Blue (County Engineer), Sheriff Walsh,
16 Allen Jones (Sheriff's Office), Julia Reitz (State's Attorney), Susan Monte (RPC), Ranae Wolken
17 (recording secretary), Jeremy S. (video recorder), many members of the public
18

19 **Call to Order**
20

21 Board Chair Weibel called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.
22

23 **Roll Call**
24

25 The secretary called the roll and the following were present: Alix, Ammons, Anderson,
26 Berkson, Betz, Carter, Cowart, Esry, Holderfield, James, Jay, Kurtz, Langenheim, Maxwell,
27 McGinty, Michaels, O'Connor, Petrie, Quisenberry, Richards, Rosales, Schroeder and Weibel.
28

29 **Approval of Minutes**
30

31 **Motion** by Rosales to approve the minutes of January 10, 2012; seconded by James.
32 **Motion carried unanimously.**
33

34 **Approval of Agenda/Addendum**
35

36 **Motion** by Richards to approve the agenda for the meeting; seconded by Carter. There
37 is no addendum. **Motion carried unanimously.**
38

39 **Public Participation**
40

41 Brian Dolinar spoke about the jail. He said everyone currently in both jail are in
42 maximum security in the Champaign County jail. He stated it would reduce the costs if there
43 was a minimum security part of the jail. He also said there should be some general attention
44 about who ends up in the jail and felt there's a number of people in the jail who don't need to be
45 there. He said that 20% of the population was there due to traffic cases. He said the Sheriff
46 continues to support the Secure Communities Program and holds immigrants until immigration
47 enforcement shows up. He also said that the State's Attorney sentences to her discretion and
48 there are heavy handed sentences and running up the population of the jail.
49

50 Julianne Panagacos said this is one of the best places to see democracy happening in this
51 world. She thinks there are a lot of similarities in all that want to make this a better society.

52 She said that there is a proposal for a new jail a need hasn't been demonstrated for a new jail.
53 She the demographics don't show growth in the community. She wants the board to think if
54 there is a need for a new jail. She encouraged all to take a look at this. She also wondered if the
55 proposed committee is representative of the community and in her view it is not.
56

57 Harold Scharlau said he had handed out to the caucuses a handout about a proposed
58 round about at Olympian Drive and Lincoln Avenue. He thinks it is a waste of tax payer money
59 in this area. He said round abouts are not made for 53 foot semis, but for smaller cars. He said
60 the truck traffic would have to make a complete circle just to make a turn. He said it would
61 block the entire intersection to be able to make a turn. He also said that snow removal would
62 also be more difficult because of the wind at north Lincoln Avenue. He said he hopes the Board
63 sees the impracticability of this and pulls the approval.
64

65 Mikhail Lynbansky said he teaches in Psychology Department and said he teaches about
66 restorative practices. He said that one of the things he talks about is asking different groups what
67 their idea of an ideal justice system is. He said most look the same. He said they want
68 community that is safe and all are treated fairly. He said they want those sentenced to be
69 sentenced fairly and when they're out to be able to do better. He asked the Board to consider the
70 opportunity to explore the alternatives that exist.
71

72 Peter Campbell spoke on behalf of the solidarity committee of the Graduate Employees
73 Organization in opposition to the jail expansion. He wanted to specifically address a claim
74 made last week by some County Board member that the expansion is about poor conditions,
75 specifically regarding the treatment of the women prisoners. He said the best way to reduce
76 beds is to reduce the number of people locked up. He said the building condition and expanded
77 facilities does not help with overcrowding.
78

79 Chris Evans said that everyone knows the downtown building is in disrepair, but asked
80 how that happened. He said we all want the prisoners and officers to be safe. He said there was
81 a failure to communicate. He spoke briefly about the passage of the 1998 Ordinance, and it said
82 at the bottom that upon the time of payment in full, the sales tax would be repealed. He said it
83 didn't say anything about the clock tower and courthouse tuck pointing and building a \$20
84 million jail now. He said the quarter cent sales tax should be brought back to the voters.
85

86 Rebecca Ginsberg said she is disturbed by the assumption that jails reduce crime. She
87 said that incarcerating people is a relatively new approach in the western world. She said the
88 main problem with incarceration is that it creates social and economic costs to families. She felt
89 a study should include those costs.
90

91 Dee Fairchild Ruggles wanted to address the process that is flawed. She said that public
92 safety is not a matter of just locking people up. She said a large number of people in the jails
93 have mental issues and said was to have programs in the community to reduce those numbers.
94 She said states are increasingly closing prisons. To summarize, she urged the Board to consider
95 the racial makeup of the committee and look at how the public safety funds are spent.
96

97 Kelly Dillard was here to speak about the proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance
98 on this evening's agenda. He said the amendment was being made will directly affect his
99 property and only his property. He said it is far reaching to many businesses and it only
100 regulates non-farm equipment. He said there are several comments that are misleading. He
101 then pointed out some of the proposed amendments that are misleading.

102 Aaron Ammons addressed the jail issue and he said the thought of selling bed space was
103 reminiscent about long ago conversations regarding long distance phone calls at the jail. He said
104 that selling space was equivalent to selling black people. He said the voters want to know why
105 the Board is pushing forward before finding out how much correcting the old building was.
106

107 Patsy Howell said that economically this issue is insane with schools and counties going
108 broke. She said voters wouldn't be okay with any project being pushed through. She
109 commented on conditions that female inmates live in and said they were inhumane conditions.
110 She felt the committee that was put together was a conflict of interest as to those who were
111 selected to serve on it. She said those on the committee's liveliness depends on the justice
112 system and that is a conflict. She said all communities are interested in this issue.
113

114 Ken Salo said he is more focused on issue of affordable public housing. He said it
115 appears by standards that affordable housing for people of color is jail. He said that some of the
116 housing sections have been revitalized.
117

118 Julie Watkins spoke in opposition of new jail expansion. She said, as a taxpayer, she is
119 disturbed about spending money this way. She's rather the money was spent to help people. She
120 said we're at a point where one if every hundred is in jail and it should not be that way. There
121 should be a referendum for the people to vote on this.
122

123 Durl Kruse said he knows the County Board members want to do the right thing, but the
124 jail space improvement project is lacking clarity and substance on a number of points. He said it
125 is not thorough and time driven. He said the process does not incorporate an integrated
126 approach that can balance the merits of construction with the merits of programs. He said the
127 public wants assurances for public input in the various stages of the project.
128

129 Sue Keller said she realizes this is not the right place, but wanted to offer that National
130 Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Champaign County would be happy partner with those
131 working on expanding the diversion and specialty court services, and also on prevention issues.
132

133 **Communications**

134
135 Chair Weibel directed the Board's attention to a handout for the Illinois Association of
136 County Board Members Zone III meeting that will take place on Saturday, March 3 at the
137 Brookens building.
138

139 Holderfield wanted to let Board Members know that the Convention and Visitors Bureau
140 is starting in the early stages of strategic planning for the next several years. She said there will
141 be meetings in March and welcomed any comments and feedback from Board members.
142

143 **Environment & Land Use**

144 Annual Report of Land Use and Land Resource Management Trends with Champaign County
145

146 Susan Monte provided information on the Annual Report of the Land Use and Land
147 Resource Management Trends with Champaign County. She said this is the first of an annual
148 series. She said it includes updates of demographic data. She noted the townships and
149 municipalities with the greatest and least amount of changes in population. She talked about the
150 numbers of permits issued for non-farm dwellings in the unincorporated areas of the county. She

151 briefly spoke of the public sanitary sewer facilities and municipal annexations. She said there is
152 also information of the countywide residential electronics collections.
153

154 Petrie asked about information on page 4 and that she would like to some additional
155 information provided on acres lost due to annexation. Ms. Monte said this is only data from
156 April, 2010 and incorporates data on the decennial census. Petrie then asked if there were
157 statistics as to what has been the proclivity of covering land and ratio to population growth.
158 Monte said she hasn't had the time to determine this but will try to do so as time allows.
159

160 **Motion** by Ammons to receive and place the report on file; seconded by Quisenberry.
161 **Motion carried unanimously.**
162

163 Proposed Minor Changes to Champaign County Land Resource Management Plan
164

165 Kurtz spoke briefly and wanted to empathize that there are no policy changes or changes
166 to goals, but for minor data updates. Ms. Monte provided information about the minor changes
167 and corrections that need to be made. She said there is also a correction about continuous urban
168 growth around them. She said there was a correction caught with the Village of Mahomet that
169 are already all developed tracts since the 1970's. Their sewer will be updated and failures will
170 be improved. James thought there would be more inspections of some of these communities'
171 systems and hoped there would be some funds made available to be able to help them.
172

173 Petrie said it didn't appear that some of the boundaries didn't seem to line up with the
174 LRMP. Monte said that some of the municipalities have had some slight increase in their
175 boundaries.
176

177 **Motion** by Carter to recommend to the full Board to accept the proposed minor changes
178 to the Champaign County Land Resource Management Plan; seconded by Anderson. **Motion**
179 **carried with one no vote.**
180

181 Direction to Zoning Administrator Regarding Proposed Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment to
182 Amend Limits on Vehicles and Equipment in Rural Home Occupations
183

184 **Motion** by Langenheim to direct the Zoning Administrator to proceed with a public
185 hearing for an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance limits for numbers of vehicles and large
186 equipment authorized in Rural Home Occupations; seconded by Petrie. Ammons asked Mr. Hall
187 to speak to comments made in public participation. Mr. Hall said his office receives complaints
188 all the time about home occupations, because they're not prepared the see businesses next door.
189 He said there have been two or three cases of similar nature made of other businesses over the
190 past couple of years, but they were not of the same magnitude. Michaels stated her concern being
191 a rural homeowner and also that her husband owns a home occupation. She felt some of the
192 standards limit people that aren't in an ag business. She said there are some too specific rules in
193 some of the instances.
194

195 Stan James said his concern was enforcing all of the changes. He said until we can
196 enforce what we have, nothing should be added. He said some is good, but need we still need to
197 be careful about enforcement. Hall understands that, but the current ordinance is affecting the
198 homeowner now. James asked about the specific complaints. He said a neighbor had a
199 complaint about the number of vehicles. Berkson said that should be some distinction between

200 home occupation and commercial occupation and when does a home occupation become a
201 commercial operation.

202

203 **Motion** by Holderfield to suspend the rules and asked if Mr. Dillard could be asked some
204 questions; seconded by Michaels. **Motion to suspend the rules carried.**

205

206 Holderfield asked Mr. Dillard for any more information as to why the Board should vote
207 to support the proposed changes. Dillard said the current ordinance regulates only 2nd division
208 vehicles. The number of semi trucks is limited to three over 8000 lbs. and doesn't speak to
209 anything else. Farm equipment is not included, but only heavy equipment is. Petrie said she
210 would like to see the ZBA documentation from this case. Holderfield asked Dillard what type
211 of business he has out of his home and how much acreage he owned. Dillard said he owned an
212 excavation business and his plat is approximately 2.18 acres. Kurtz asked how many pieces of
213 equipment he had. Dillard responded that he had roughly twenty pieces, not all of which are at
214 his location, but spread out throughout the county, from trenchers to excavators. He has run his
215 business for approximately five years. Alix asked what action is being requested. It was noted
216 there was a motion on the floor to make changes as outlined on pages 24 and 25 of the agenda
217 and to proceed with the public hearing at the Zoning Board of Appeals.

218

219 Weibel said that there should be something included about any of the vehicles being
220 operational. Schroeder said there has been a lot of talk about rural home occupations. He
221 said when an oil and chip roads maintained by township doesn't have the resources to maintain
222 those roads, there should be some limit to some occupations. He asked if the state came out with
223 an equalizer limit now to roads, which is 80,000 lbs. Hall confirmed that, with the exception
224 that in the three months of the year during hot seasonal environmental conditions, when the
225 township road commissioners deem so.

226

227 Jay asked what the purpose was to change from non-farm vehicles to motor vehicles.
228 Hall said it should include all vehicles used in that business. Jay felt that non-farm was put more
229 simply to him. Jay's other question why weight was such an issue deviating from 15,000 to
230 36,000 lbs. Hall said 8,000 lbs. was too low. Hall talked to some road commissioners and
231 they believe that no more than 36,000 lbs. is reasonable. Jay said we're trying to put too many
232 restrictions. Jay said if there is already 80,000 limit, then why care if a piece of equipment is
233 35,000. Jay suggested a change to 100,000 lbs.

234

235 Jay said that Dillard had also brought up a point about parking on his property fifty feet
236 away from a screen. Jay said if he is screened, what difference made how far away he parks
237 from the screen. Hall said the Ordinance is written that way, but if the committee directs him,
238 then changes can be made. Schroeder asked if there were any comments from road
239 commissioners about the changes. Hall said those he spoke to had no problems with the
240 proposed changes. Schroeder felt the maximum should remain at 80,000 lbs. Maxwell said he
241 believes this is an attempt to make it more liberal and give more flexibility to the rural home
242 owner. He said that in order to move the larger weight they need to get a state permit.

243

244 Michaels asked about the proposed revisions regarding signage. She said it would be
245 difficult to store multiple vehicles and trailers that have signage on them and the proposed
246 changes are too restrictive. Kurtz asked Board members to get their suggestions to Mr. Hall and
247 bring back next month to next COW. He will include minutes from next ZBA meeting.

248

249 **Motion** by James to defer to the March COW meeting; seconded by Weibel. **Motion to**
250 **defer carried unanimously.**

251
252 Monthly Report

253
254 **Motion** by Cowart to receive and place on file; seconded by Rosales. **Motion carried**
255 **unanimously.**

256
257 Other Business

258
259 No other business.

260
261 Designation of Items to be placed on the Consent Agenda

262
263 Nothing to be placed on the consent agenda.

264
265 Highway & Transportation

266 Monthly Reports

267
268 **Motion** by Betz to receive and place on file the monthly report of the County Engineer;
269 seconded by Esry. **Motion carried.**

270
271 County Engineer

272 Petition – Philo Road District

273
274 Mr. Blue stated the estimated cost of this project is \$37,000, of which half should be paid
275 for by the County.

276
277 **Motion** by McGinty to recommend to the County Board approval of a Petition and
278 Resolution Approving Appropriation of Funds from the County Bridge Fund Pursuant to 605
279 ILCS 5/5-501 for Philo Road District; seconded by Richards. Blue said this is for replacing a
280 box culvert. Richards asked how often the County replaces township culverts. Blue said this
281 happens about 15-20 times per year. The road commissioner does an analysis for the bridge,
282 then the County engineers determine plans and estimates. He said that as long as there are funds
283 in the line item, the project is approved. **Motion carried unanimously.**

284
285 Resolution Appropriating County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the Salary and Estimated Expenses
286 of the County Engineer for the Period from December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012

287
288 **Motion** by O'Connor to recommend to the full Board a Resolution Appropriating County
289 Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the Salary and Estimated Expenses of the County Engineer for the
290 Period from December 1, 2011 through November 30, 2012; seconded by Carter. McGinty said
291 it was clear in their caucus there seemed to be a disconnect as to why these funds are appropriated
292 for this purpose. Blue said the County Engineer's salary is paid out of county motor fuel tax in
293 state of Illinois. He said that federal aid dollars match that salary, as well as asking IDOT to
294 transfer the funds salary. He said this is the procedure in all counties. **Motion carried**
295 **unanimously.**

296

297 Resolution Appropriating \$26,284.00 from County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for Champaign
298 County's Share of the Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Area Transportation Study – Section #11-
299 00000-00-ES

300

301 Mr. Blue said the 2011 Resolution didn't reach the Board, so last year's is being
302 presented along with the 2012 Resolution.

303

304 **Omnibus motion** by McGinty to recommend to the County Board approval of the
305 Resolutions Appropriating \$26,284.00 from County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for Champaign
306 County's Share of the Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Area Transportation Study – Sections #11-
307 00000-00-ES and #12-00000-00-ES; seconded by Holderfield. O'Connor asked how this
308 appropriation benefited the County. Blue said it is a great benefit to the County. He said
309 CUUATS is the metropolitan planning committee, conduct studies on the County's behalf and do
310 any work that is outside the realm of the work the County's Highway department is not able to
311 do. He said the work they do is amazing and do an amazing job. Weibel said that RPC is also
312 able to obtain grants for planning and engineering. Busey confirmed for Petrie this was already
313 in the budget. **Motion carried unanimously.**

314

315 Resolution Appropriating \$26,284.00 from County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for Champaign
316 County's Share of the Champaign-Urbana Urbanized Area Transportation Study – Section #12-
317 00000-00-ES

318

319 See above.

320

321 Resolution Appropriating \$370,000 from County Bridge Funds for the Replacement of Structure
322 #010-7048 Located on CH8 (Foosland Rd) in Brown Road District – Section #11-00981-00-BR

323

324 Mr. Blue said this project in the beginning planning stages for the summer of 2012. He
325 said the county road is in dire need of repair. The quality index is in the 20's, on a scale of 100.
326 No major improvements have been made to the road since 1985. He is proposing to do not only
327 replacing the bridge, but also work to reclaim the roadway. This means actually going out on
328 the existing roadway, put the material through a pugmill which is then laid out behind the mill
329 and put back out through the paver and oil is added. Then they come back with three inches of
330 hot mix asphalt and make it an 80,000 lb. road. He received from the State of Illinois a grant in
331 the amount of \$625,000 for this project. He also said the bridge is not in shape to handle the
332 load as well and since they will be out there already working on the road they intend to replace
333 the bridge.

334

335 **Omnibus Motion** by Alix to recommend approval of a Resolution Appropriating
336 \$370,000.00 from County Bridge Funds for the Replacement of Structure #010-7048 located on
337 CH8 (Foosland Rd) in Brown Road District and a Resolution Appropriating Motor Fuel Tax
338 Funds for the Improvement of County Highways 8 & 30; seconded by Michaels. Alix asked if
339 the bridge already had a reduced weight limit. Blue said no, but it should be. In response to
340 Maxwell's question, Blue stated they were in a surveying stage of work. Petrie asked at what
341 point bridges can no longer be repaired. Blue said there were a lot of reasons a bridge can
342 become deficient. He said in this particular case, the concrete is literally falling off the bottom
343 of it. **Motion carried unanimously.**

344

345 Olympian Drive Update

346

347 Mr. Blue said some work has been done since last updated. He said the consultant is
348 about 30% done with developing plans. He said the reason they haven't moved forward faster is
349 because of the discussion about the bridge over the railroad. He said it was originally designed
350 to be as short as possible, but the railroad has asked for additional feet to allow for another rail
351 line. The railroad and the consultant have worked out a plan with a very minimal addition of
352 costs. Blue had a meeting about right-of-way coming from the Atkins Group, which is being
353 handles by the City of Champaign, the Heimberger family group negotiations are being handled
354 by the City of Urbana, and the Squire family group negotiations are being handled by the County.
355

356 Mr. Blue said that as of this date the bid date is scheduled for June, 2013. He said there
357 will be another public input meeting. He also spoke about the public hearing that is to be held in
358 front of the Illinois Commerce Commission. Quisenberry asked about one of the concerns that
359 was brought up during public participation with regard to a proposed round about on North
360 Lincoln Avenue. Blue said the round-about came up during the public input at the public
361 hearings. Blue said he doesn't have a lot of information on round-about, but said that modern
362 day round-about are much more easy to navigate than previously. He said this particular round
363 about is designed to accommodate larger equipment. An actual template was made of equipment
364 in determining its size in the project. He said that round-about are made for safety and that
365 accidents are much less frequent than an intersection. Blue said the next ICC meeting is March
366 20 and it is a pre-hearing meeting.
367

368 Petrie asked if there are only three land negotiations to which Blue said that was all that
369 was needed for the Olympian Drive project. McGinty said he was at some of the public
370 hearings and said that specifically those that supported the round-about were all urban and those
371 that opposed the round-about were all rural. He said the rural people voted that way because it
372 directly affects them. Langenheim concurred with McGinty, but asked if the round-about was
373 set in concrete. Blue said no decision on that has been made yet. Holderfield said that round-
374 abouts do not seem conducive to the rural environment. She said we need to be mindful what is
375 going to be most effective. Berkson also agreed with McGinty, especially since this is a -T-
376 intersection and there is no way to know how long it will remain a T-intersection. Alix said he
377 was more comfortable with the Engineer saying this is the most effective. Blue said he would
378 like to invite the engineers to come to the committee sometime to explain why they determined a
379 round-about was a better alternative. Kurtz felt it was primarily the city pushing for the round-
380 about and asked where the money was coming from for this. Blue said the County does not have
381 a share in this project and there is no local money in it right now. Blue said he couldn't
382 comment on the additional dollars at this meeting. Brief discussion continued.
383

384 Resolution Appropriating County Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the Improvement of County
385 Highways 8 & 30

386
387 See above.
388

389 Jurisdictional Transfer of Highway in Foosland
390

391 Mr. Blue said he had received a letter from the Village of Foosland President. The
392 village has maintenance and jurisdiction of the roadway that extends through the village. They
393 receive approximately \$2,500 each year to maintain the roadway and they have asked the County
394 to take over the maintenance of that portion. That road is in need of repair. Blue said it is an
395 extension of the highway they'll be working on this summer. He estimated that an additional
396 \$80,000-\$100,000 would be required to do a mill and overlay for the road rehabilitation. He said

397 the County has to go through a jurisdictional process with IDOT. IDOT has concurred, but
398 needed guidance from the County Board. A straw vote showed agreement to proceed with the
399 process. It was noted by Dale Sedberry, Village of Foosland President, that a contractor/farmer
400 moves a tremendous amount of heavy equipment on that road almost daily. He said the Village
401 just doesn't have the finances to keep up this road. Blue said this was a half-mile stretch road.
402 Petrie asked how this would affect the County highway maintenance budget. Blue said nothing
403 much because they already drive through there to turn around when plowing the roads. He would
404 have to come back to the Board with another resolution. It was mentioned also that this road
405 was previously a State road, but jurisdiction changed in 1985 with the rural portion going to the
406 County and the urban portion going to the Village, and no improvements to the road have been
407 made since. This item to be placed on the February 23 full Board agenda.

408
409 Other Business

410
411 Cowart asked Mr. Blue to talk about some out-of-state travel conference that he attended.
412 He attended a conference in Washington, DC on January 18 through 20 to represent the National
413 Association of County Engineers on what is called the National Committee on the Uniform
414 Committee on Traffic Control Devices. He had been on the committee when he came to
415 Champaign and is now the Chair of the National Association's delegation. He sits on the
416 Temporary Traffic Control Committee that makes suggestions to the federal highway
417 commission. He said this committee does wonderful work and there were about 250 people in
418 attendance in each meeting. He talked about mandates for safety, and also about the costs
419 involved in following the mandates. He said he was proud to serve on the committee and will
420 continue to serve on it.

421
422 Designation of Item to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

423
424 All items for consideration are to be placed on the consent agenda.

425
426 Chair Weibel declared a break at 8:50pm. The Board was back in session at 8:57pm.

427
428 County Facilities

429 Physical Plant FY2011 Year End Budget Report

430
431 Alan Reinhart briefly explained the reports. He said we must really take into mind the
432 building maintenance line items in the future.

433
434 **Motion** by Ammons to receive and place on file both the FY2011 Year End Budget
435 Report and the Monthly Report of the Physical Plant; seconded by Petrie. **Motion carried**
436 **unanimously.**

437
438 Physical Plant Monthly Reports

439
440 See above.

441
442 202 Art Bartell Construction Monthly Report

443
444 Reinhart stated there hasn't been new action since last month.

445
446

447 East Campus Storm Water Management Project Update

448

449 Reinhart stated that BCA is getting documents off to utility companies and getting documents
450 together for bidding.

451

452 **Motion** by Langenheim to receive and place on file the 202 Art Bartell Construction
453 Monthly Report; seconded by Quisenberry. Ammons asked if the build out on the sheet was for
454 the Coroner and the County Clerk's storage. Reinhart said yes and that everyone is already
455 moved in. The Coroner and County Clerk offices are planning for an open house tentatively
456 scheduled for February 28. **Motion carried unanimously.**

457

458 Courthouse Sound System Project Update

459

460 Reinhart said a tentative 3 ½ week schedule to complete the project. There is a walk-
461 through schedule for Friday of this week and the project is moving along well. Betz thanked
462 both Quisenberry and Alix for the work they put into this project.

463

464 Jail Space Improvement Project

465 Establishment of Jail Space Improvement Project Planning Team

466

467 Betz stated that normally, since this is not a County Board committee, the Board does not
468 have authority to appoint them to anything. These individuals are willing to serve on the
469 committee according to the model of the NIC and the information is provided for information
470 purposes. He has no problem with this committee listening to all those representing services.
471 He said it is not designed to exclude anyone. He said that Judge Difanis and Julia Reitz may
472 appoint anyone to represent them on the committee. This is how other issues have been dealt
473 with in the past with the initial steps of the projects.

474

475 Approval of Release of RFP for Consultant Services for Needs Assessment and Pre-Design
476 Planning

477

478 **Motion** by Langenheim to recommend approval of release of a RFP for Consultant
479 Services for Needs Assessment and Pre-Design Planning; seconded by O'Connor. Busey said
480 this would be a RFP for a specific service and based upon the responses a single vendor would be
481 selected to conduct the needs assessment and pre-design planning for the County's jail space.
482 O'Connor asked if it would be appropriate to split the needs assessment and the pre-design
483 planning. Busey said the pre-design goes with the needs assessment. This information then
484 would be presented in the next phase that goes on to an engineering/architect firm. She said a
485 jail planner can produce the pre-design bubble plan and is the recommended first step determined
486 by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC).

487

488 Ammons felt the timeline that was included in the packet makes the automatic
489 assumption that a new jail will be built. Ammons said those attending the conference were on a
490 research mission to find out options only. Ammons said the original referendum regarding the
491 public safety sales tax was to be repealed, but in 2003 the sunset clause seems to have been
492 repealed. Ammons said her involvement in this Board seems to get the go ahead and then is out
493 of the public view. But she said the public's issue seems to be ignored and asked the board step
494 back and set up around the entire County public debates on this issue. She said the people she
495 has spoken to want the maintenance issues addressed, but the expansion issues should go back to
496 public debate. Lastly, she said, it is clear to her the stakeholders on the planning team have a

497 personal stake in this project and there is no representation of African American order or Latino
498 representation. Busey said a report was given in October to this Board and it was reported that a
499 team was to be developed are the people that the NIC suggested. Busey said a model was being
500 followed for this purpose. Ammons stated her disagreement with that process. Langenheim
501 said that all agreed the problems at the downtown jail must be corrected. He said this is the
502 process for needs assessment and pre-design planning and we should go ahead and find out what
503 it is about. He urged the Board to approve the release for the RFP and then discuss who to put
504 on the committee. He said the Board can then change or add members to the committee.
505

506 Holderfield pointed out that it says on the timeline at the end that if the County Board
507 determines not to proceed, then the project ends. She said she asked Sheriff Walsh if the areas
508 of mental health and medical facilities would be addressed as part of the re-design. Sheriff
509 Walsh reassured her that they would be included. Holderfield wanted to reassure Ammons that
510 everyone would be heard and that she does care of the well-being of everyone involved, both
511 inmates and employees that work in those buildings.
512

513 James asked if there is a dollar amount that might be assessed with the RFP. Busey said
514 the Board probably won't know the dollar amount until the RFP responses are received, and are
515 looking into entering into a contract which would be a decision to be made by the County Board.
516 Berkson asked that a broad based group evaluate the RFP. Betz stated it is solely up to the
517 Board to vote on the RFP, but said that others may give input or advice. Jay thinks one of the
518 things that need to be done is to understand the County Board does not decide who goes to jail,
519 but to provide the incarceration facilities. He said the Board needs to get the focus on what is
520 next, which is the needs assessment, whether it is refurbishing the existing jail or adding on the to
521 the satellite jail. Anderson thought at the end of last week's discussion until there seemed to be a
522 consensus to move forward and the only to move forward is to issue the RFP for a needs
523 assessment. Maxwell said it seemed there have been problems in the past with knowing what is
524 being asked in the RFP. Betz responded saying a draft will be prepared and brought back to the
525 Board for input and discussion.
526

527 Busey stated, according to the Purchasing Policy, the Board releases the RFP. In this
528 case it makes sense to draft the RFP and have it prepared for the February 23 full Board meeting
529 for any comments or input. Ammons said she wanted to go back and separate the issues. She
530 said the only option that seems to be given is a pre-design plan and that the Board talks like it is
531 one item. She said she asked for cost assessments for repairs made downtown versus a rebuild
532 of a jail addition. She said no discussion had taken place on what can be fixed on the
533 maintenance issues of the downtown jail. Ammons then directed a comment toward Mr. Jay
534 that the Board controls the one-quarter percent sales tax.
535

536 Alix thinks the downtown jail is nearing the end of its useful life and the RFP needs to be
537 issued to find out what the potential improvements are. The whole point of doing the RFP is to
538 find out the costs are in the needs or what can be done. He said any construction project is still
539 several years off and would like some of this planning process focus on short term strategy and
540 any contingency plans. He said the language could use some work when talking about design
541 planning and didn't agree that the Board is considering jail expansion, because they have to look
542 at what issues need to be addressed. He sees a facilities issue and felt the RFP needed to be
543 issued. He said input from individuals who work in the system, whether it is medical or mental
544 health professional, would be beneficial.
545

546 McGinty wanted to address the issue of tone from this point forward on this issue. He
547 said it's not clear that they're talking about expansion and is interested in what the public has to
548 say. Esry said his assumption would be to address the work needed at the downtown jail now,
549 and that part of that process is to fix the exterior issues. Holderfield stressed she is not ready to
550 spend one dime until the questions are answered. Her concern is the current facility is unsafe
551 and wants the inmates in a facility that is in good repair and have the medical and mental health
552 care that is needed. She said statistically in comparable counties Champaign County has the
553 lowest rate of incarceration. She said she wanted to fix what is broken, not increase the number
554 of beds.

555
556 Busey said in response to questions raised said that pre-design planning is not a floor
557 plan, but is a bubble design concept of what will best serve those programs and needs in the jail
558 with regard to kitchen space, education programs, exercise, health care and how to address those
559 needs. It also helps to figure what spaces those needs and programs can share. Sheriff hopes
560 that pre-planner does the bubble diagrams and takes into consideration all the services. He
561 intends to involve those professionals who provide and deliver those services. He stated he has
562 no personal stake in this project, he only wants to provide options for the Board to consider.

563
564 Petrie wanted to hear responses from Busey and Betz as to the possibility of adding
565 certain categories of individuals to the project team and taking in account some of the comments
566 made during public participation. Regarding the timetable, she said she thought the dates are
567 not set in stone and would like no more than a minimum of three months. Betz said, with regard
568 to the issue of scope, that there is nothing in the RFP proposal that would exclude the downtown
569 facility or satellite, but we're looking at space needs and how everything fits in. He said in his
570 sixteen years on the Board he has yet to see a perfect RFP. He said there is always room for
571 ideas. He has found the Sheriff completely open in every way to ideas, in ways of helping the
572 gender issue, education, screening, etc. He said he is amazed as to how open he is to alternative
573 ideas. Betz said that in the process, one of the things discussed at the jail conference in
574 Colorado, was how to use the programs. He said this County is a leader in those programs. He
575 said it is all part of the assessment process. He feels it bothersome that the public thinks that
576 none of this is going on.

577
578 Ammons exited the meeting at 9:51pm.

579
580 Betz mentioned that people think that jails perform no function and it picks on the poor
581 people, for instance someone who was incarcerated for domestic violence. He asked what
582 people thought the battered spouse thought. He said there are people who belong in jail. He said
583 there is a misrepresentation out there that traffic offenders are mixed with murderers and didn't
584 feel that is the case, because there are liability issues with that. The board will continue with this
585 discussion for years to come. He wants to keep the objective that this is about a facilities issue.

586
587 Busey wanted to speak on the issue of the project team. She said this is the same model
588 that was used for all other building projects since the jail was built in 1996. The project team has
589 the basic responsibility for staff work that is required. In this process of working with the
590 consultant, she imagines a large number of employees who work in the correctional center will be
591 interviewed. They will talk about all the issues that are involved. When we get to that stage of
592 the process, then other comments can be taken. This team gets the project moving forward.

593
594 Rosales asked Reinhart why the issue of maintaining the jail had gotten so bad. Reinhart
595 said they have maintained the building as best as possible with budget constraints. He said a new

596 roof was put on some time ago. Much of the equipment is thirty years old, but they maintain
597 those as much as possible. He said what cannot be maintained, which is adding to the
598 conditions, is the fact that there have been multiple hangings and breakouts on the early design.
599 There has been welding issues on ventilation, covering windows, etc to deal with those issues.
600 Lighting is poor, ventilation is poor because of these issues. He said type of paint needed to
601 paint that building cannot be done because the ventilation is poor. He continued to describe
602 using special equipment for some projects. He said there was a small fire years ago, the fire
603 departments had to bring in special equipment just to exhaust the smoke out of the building and
604 the inmates needed to be moved to the outdoor recreation areas. Rosales asked if we were
605 currently in code violation. Reinhart said not yet with regard to safety codes.
606

607 Reinhart said that close to a million and half dollars will more than likely have to be
608 spent sooner or later on roof replacement, exterior tuck pointing, etc. When asked, they can
609 continue to keep the building running, but most pieces of equipment are thirty years old. He said
610 what cannot be done is completely gut the cellblocks to improve the ventilation, etc and make
611 corrections for the hanging issues. He said they can continue to piece meal repairs, such as air
612 handlers and heating issues, but that is throwing bad money after bad money. Rosales asked how
613 it would take to budget to take care of these issues. He wanted to make sure that when a RFP is
614 issued, costs for maintenance should be included. Langenheim said everyone recognizes there is
615 a problem and the RFP should address those issues and if the Board cannot come to an agreement
616 as to what can be done. He said we need to bring in a consultant to assess and bring back
617 information in an organized manner.
618

619 Michaels asked if a change could be made to the language with regard to the language
620 and a release of a RFP. Betz said he would change the wording of the request to “release of
621 RFP” to “develop a RFP”. Weibel responded to Rosales’ comment about budgeting for
622 maintenance of the jails. He said it was this Board that makes those cuts and that Reinhart is
623 making the best use of what is budgeted. Betz then asked for a roll call vote. **Motion to**
624 **develop a RFP for Consultant Services for Needs Assessment and Pre-Design Planning**
625 **carried by roll call vote with Alix, Anderson, Berkson, Betz, Esry, Holderfield, James, Jay,**
626 **Kurtz, Langenheim, McGinty, Michaels, Quisenberry, Richards, Schroeder and Weibel**
627 **voting yes and with Carter, Cowart, Maxwell, O’Connor, Petrie and Rosales voting no.**
628

629 Cost Assessment and Comparative Study of Jail Space Solutions at Satellite Jail and Downtown
630 Correctional Center
631

632 Betz said results from the RFP will answer some of these questions.
633

634 Garner Together Impactors in Social Justice System to Present Information Regarding
635 Improvements and Implementing Suggestions in the Jailing Communities Report
636

637 Betz stated this issue is not entirely related to Facilities. He said information should be
638 compiled in Justice and Social Services area of the County Board. He said it would be good
639 and a perfect way to have that information. Richards spoke about an email from Betz that was
640 sent to all of their caucus members and he agreed these issues would be discussed under the
641 heading of Justice and Social Services. Richards expanded further and said that Court Services
642 would be at next week’s COW and speak to social services they use to keep people out of jail.
643 Richards talked about having an agenda item to talk more about policy related issues having to do
644 with this such as talking about programs already being used, i.e. diversion programs, etc.
645

646 Alix recognized that no one came to the Study Session to speak about minor issues, but
647 they came to talk about the system, and issues like racial disparities and sentencing and reducing
648 crime in the community. He felt some of the work release type programs don't work as well
649 because the current facility isn't suited well for that type of program right now. Kurtz said it
650 seems there is some misinformation about what is happening and that the numbers speak for
651 themselves. Over the last 10 years, he said the incarceration has decreased by thousands of
652 inmates. He pointed out the most recent list of drug court graduates list included 80% of people
653 of color. He hoped they can be improved and expanded upon because they're helpful. Betz
654 thanked Richards for taking on big project.

655
656 Funding Model Based on Current Available Resources

657
658 This item to be placed on next month's agenda.

659
660 Other Business

661
662 None.

663
664
665 Designation of Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda

666
667 None to be placed on the Consent Agenda..

668
669 Other Business

670
671 None.

672
673 Adjournment

674
675 Chair Weibel declared the meeting adjourned at 10:31pm.

676
677 Respectfully submitted,

678
679 Ranae Wolken
680 Recording Secretary

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*Secretary's note – The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of
business conducted at the meeting.*