



**UNITED COUNTIES
COUNCIL OF ILLINOIS**

TO: UCCI Members
FROM: Joseph Payette, Secretary
SUBJECT: Membership Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2023
9:30 A.M. – Sangamo Club
Springfield

This will summarize the decisions and actions of the above meeting attended by the following:

BOND	Bernard Myers, Brad Criner, Jacob Rayl
BUREAU	Sharon Schallhorn
CARROLL	Joseph Payette
CASS	Eric Snellgrove
CLINTON	Mike Hilmes
CUMBERLAND	Jonathan Kaye
DeWITT	Claro Carter
FULTON	Lisa Thompson
HENRY	Kippy Breeden, Marshall Jones
JO DAVIESS	John Lang
KENDALL	Matthew Prochaska
LIVINGSTON	Alina Hartley, Steve Lovell
LOGAN	Emily Davenport, Elizabeth Davis-Kavelman
MACON	Debra Kraft, Tamara Wilcox, Tracy Sumpter
MADISON	Dave Tanzyus, Kurt Prenzler
MASON	Ken Walker, Eldon Garlisch, Ron Knollenberg
McDONOUGH	Joe Erlandson
MENARD	Dara Worthington, Gwen Thomas, Joseph Crowe
MONTGOMERY	Gene Miles
MOULTRIE	Kristi Hart
OGLE	Dan Janes, Stan Asp
PERRY	Bruce Morgenstern
RANDOLPH	Marc Kiehna
STARK	J. Thomas Howes
ST. CLAIR	Mark Kern
STEPHENSON	Samuel Newton
TAZEWELL	Russ Crawford
WASHINGTON	David Meyer, Dennis Shemonic
WHITESIDE	Martin Koster
WOODFORD	John Krug

The meeting was called to order by UCCI President David Meyer.

Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Welcome/Introductions

President Meyer welcomed all in attendance and called for individual introductions of those present.

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Approval of Minutes (February 27, 2023)

Motion by Macon County

Seconded by Henry County

Voice Vote/Action Taken – MOTION PASSED

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Treasurer’s Report (February 2023)

Motion by Randolph County

Seconded by Stark County

Voice Vote/Action Taken – MOTION PASSED

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Election of UCCI Executive Committee & Officers (2023-2025)

Executive Director McCreery advised that all provisions contained in bylaws for election of Executive Committee members and officers had been met; briefly reviewed process to be used for voting on election of officers and Executive Committee members; and, introduced Executive Committee Member Samuel Newton, Nominating Committee Chair, to present the committee’s report and recommendation.

Following Mr. Newton’s welcoming remarks to membership, he thanked Lisa Thompson (Fulton County) and Dr. Marc Kiehna (Randolph County) for serving on the Nominating Committee and proceeded to present the February 6, 2023 report of the committee. Recommendation of Nominating Committee is as follows:

David Meyer (Washington County) – President
 David Zimmerman (Tazewell County) – Vice President
 Joseph Payette (Carroll County) – Secretary
 P.E. Cross (Hamilton County) – Treasurer
 Matthew Prochaska (Kendall County) – Member
 Mark Kern (St. Clair County) – Member
 Samuel Newton (Stephenson County) – Member

No nominations from the floor being received, Mr. Newton declared the nominations closed.

Motion by Tazewell County to accept the Nominating Committee’s report as presented and approve nominees presented.

Seconded by Henry County.

Voice Vote/Action Taken – MOTION PASSED

Introduction of Executive Committee members by President Meyer.

AGENDA ITEM #5 –Executive Director’s Remarks/Legislative Update

Legislative update by Mr. McCreery included, but was not limited to, overview and impact of the makeup of the 103rd General Assembly on passage of proposed legislation and corresponding lack of bipartisanship on large issues; brief overview of legislative calendar with scheduled adjournment date of May 19; timelines/deadlines for filing of proposed legislation and impact on legislative staff with 4,000 (+/-) bills having been filed in the House and 2,500 (+/-) in the Senate; and, explanation of concept and use of ‘shell bills’. Mr. McCreery advised that UCCI would continue to monitor and update membership on legislation of interest to units of local government. Membership’s assistance is also welcomed and encouraged in providing input on legislation of interest.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – Presentation ... Beginning to Understand HB4412 (Statewide Siting Standards/Wind & Solar)

Introduction of Mr. Alec Messina, Executive Director, Illinois Chamber of Commerce Energy Council, by Mr. McCreery.

Mr. Messina’s introductory remarks included: (1) a brief summary of his background/experience in the environmental arena (environmental law practice for 24 years; currently, partner at HeplerBroom, LLC/spearheads Government Affairs practice group and works with Environmental Practice Group clients; Director of the Illinois EPA; Policy Advisor for Environment and Energy in the Rauner administration/overseeing policy development and implementation for six state agencies; Executive Director of the Illinois Environmental Regulatory Group; Chief Legal Counsel for IEPA and the Office of State Fire Marshal; as well as various other positions inside and outside of state government); and, (2) an announcement that he would be working with Mr. McCreery to schedule a follow-up meeting/webinar for UCCI membership to actively participate with experts across the country on this topic to get more information, answers to questions on what’s needed moving forward.

Discussion included, but was not limited to, legislative process or lack thereof for pushing proposal through lame duck session; wind maps/abundance of wind availability in Illinois; local encouragement for project development, but slow to develop projects; Climate & Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) overview; and, HB4412 discussion highlights included, but were not limited to, Illinois Power Agency (IPA) director changes; power price assistance; energy hub changes; commercial development siting: (1) *may include* all of the requirements in law (review of those four requirements) and (2) *may not include* terms more restrictive (review of those five items); May 27, 2023 deadline/amendment of existing zoning ordinance if in conflict *shall* be done within 120 days of January 27, 2023 (effective date of law).

Question/Answer session held with membership included, but was not limited to, environmental issues/birds; decommissioning plans/disposal of components thereafter; reasonable fees/possible increases; CEJA/county flexibility; roadways; ordinance control/policing.

Membership emphasis/consensus agreement ... 120 days was not enough time for counties to meet deadline of May 27, 2023 to amend ordinance if in conflict, especially with so many unanswered questions still remaining.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – County Issues

None

AGENDA ITEM #8 – Old Business

Membership was advised that the 2023 UCCI Statewide Salary & Fringe Benefits Survey would be available for distribution the first week of March (both print and electronic version).

AGENDA ITEM #9 – New Business

Legislative Conference ... Mr. McCreery briefly reviewed the schedule of events for the March 28-29, 2023 Legislative Conference (Tuesday Membership Meeting (1:00 pm); Legislative Reception (5:00 pm); and, Wednesday Seminar (8:00 am), with all events taking place at the Sangamo Club; encouraged membership to take advantage of time following membership meeting Tuesday afternoon to visit legislators, as both chambers will be in session that day, to discuss county issues/concerns and personally invite them to join us that evening at our reception; and, announced that UCCI would be reimbursing \$100 towards attendees' Tuesday lodging costs, provided they attend the Wednesday seminar, as well as paying round-trip mileage from county seat for those who drive to Springfield. Registration is requested for catering purposes and can be done by contacting the UCCI office or online at www.unitedcounties.com.

AGENDA ITEM #10 – Adjournment

Motion by Macon County

Seconded by Washington County

Voice Vote/Action Taken – Motion PASSED

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

1:00 P.M. – Sangamo Club

227 East Adams, Springfield