



County Services Committee Minutes

Lee County, Illinois

Jan 9, 2023 at 9:00 AM CST

Old Lee County Courthouse, Third Floor Boardroom

112 E 2nd St, Dixon, IL 61021

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., by Chair Jack Skrogstad.

II. Committee Member Roll Call: Chair Jack Skrogstad, Vice Chair Danielle Allen, Katie White, Ron Gascoigne, Reed Akre

Jack Skrogstad, Danielle Allen, Katie White, Ron Gascoigne, and Reed Akre all attended in person.

Also present: Bob Olson (County Board Chairman), Tom Kitson (County Board Vice Chairman), Keane Hudson, Mike Koppien (Board Members), Dave Anderson (Transportation/Solid Waste), Charley Boonstra (State's Attorney), Dee Duffy (Zoning Administrator), Greg Gates (LOTS), Paul Gorski (IT Administrator), Nancy Petersen (County Clerk and Recorder), Wendy Ryerson (Administrator), Chris Tennyson (ROE), and Becky Brenner (Board Secretary), all attended in person. Angie Shippert and Mike Pearson (Board Members) attended via Zoom video conferencing.

III. Public Attendees

No members of the public were in attendance.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting - (December 12, 2022)

Minutes from the December 12, 2022, County Services Committee Meeting were approved as presented without modification.

V. Transportation/Solid Waste

A. Highway Report

1. Review of Highway Funding Sources

Dave Anderson walked the committee through a high-level overview of the \$4.25 million in local, State, and Federal Highway funding the department receives:

- Local funding includes property taxes conforming to State statute i.e. -
 1. County Highway for general operating expenses including salaries, supplies, equipment, etc.
 2. County Special Bridge is restricted to drainage projects (bridge, culverts, and tiling) built jointly with Townships
 3. County Matching provides the local match to State and Federal funding and is typically 50/50 or 80/20.
- State Funding includes motor fuel taxes and grants conforming to IDOT requirements i.e. -

1. MFT allotment for general maintenance and specific projects, supplementing the County highway fund which pays for seal coat, signs, salt, paint, and general maintenance items.
2. State Grants which are project specific - major bridge funds, TARP Funds, etc. These funds are not guaranteed and must be justified.
 - Federal funding includes funds for roads, funds for bridges and grants that conform to federal guidelines. Funds are restrictive and there are many design guidelines that must be met.
2. 2023 Project Letting Schedule

Dave Anderson walked the committee through the 2023 Highway Department Project Letting Schedule. The meetings will be held at the Highway Department in Amboy at 9:00 a.m., on February 10th, March 10th, and April 7th. The results will be provided to the County Services Committee the following week for approval. The awarded bids will be posted to the County website

B. Solid Waste Report

There was no Solid Waste Report.

VI. Assessor's Office - GIS Department

A. Assessor's Office

Jennifer Boyd was not able to attend the meeting, because of the County's Board of Review process but she submitted a comprehensive report to the committee members that will be included in the January County Board agenda packet.

B. GIS Department

Sami Elarifi was not able to attend the meeting, but he submitted a comprehensive report to the committee members that will be included in the January County Board agenda packet.

VII. County Board

Wendy Ryerson reported the following information from County Board:

- Due to the difficulties experienced by the County last month with the OnBoard voting process, Wendy contacted the company via email and was invited to share her concerns during an hour long zoom meeting. The process to correct the issues is ongoing.
- Over a year ago the County allocated \$100,000 from ARPA funds to begin addressing the abandoned and unsafe properties in the County. The first project in Compton has been abated, demolished, the basement filled, and the property leveled. The County currently possesses a judicial deed to the property. At the January County Board Meeting the members will be asked to consider quit claiming the deed to the Village of Compton. This would relinquish the County from all rights and interests in the property. The Village

of Compton would then need to accept the property by resolution. This option was the most cost-effective option available to the County.

- Wendy explained that she has been in conversation with the Chairman about creating several small working groups to collaborate with Zoning Ordinance Revisions, Abandoned Properties, Grant matters, and Tourism. She encouraged anyone that would like to participate in one of these groups to contact the Chairman.

VIII. County Clerk's Office

Nancy Petersen reported the following information from the County Clerk and Recorder's Office:

- Board Member Danielle Allen had been sworn in at 8:40 am prior to the meeting.
- The Election Office was rolling into the April 4, 2022, Consolidation Election process.
- Early voting for the Consolidated Election will begin on February 23, 2023.
- Economic interest forms will be mailed out in the next couple weeks.
- Tax Extension will be starting soon.

IX. IT Department

Paul Gorski reported the following information from the IT Department:

- The Department continues to upgrade file servers in New Courts and the Law Enforcement Center.
- IT is assisting with several projects in the Assessor's Office and GIS Department
- IT will be working to update Office 365 in the Probation Department.

X. LOTS

Greg Gates walked the committee through the LOTS report. The full report will be included in the January County Board agenda packet. Highlights included:

- Progress made in the Mass Transit formation process
- Updates on ridership
- New vehicle procurement
- Oregon facility construction

XI. ROE

Chris Tennyson reported the following information:

- Sterling School District just voted at their Board Meeting to join the Nexus Program which will add many students to their case load.
- The office fell several years behind in their annual audits. The FY2019 audit has been completed. A new firm assigned to them by the state is currently working on the FY2020 audit. Paperwork is ready for the FY2021 audit and as soon as it is completed, they will start the FY2022 audit.
- State legislation was passed last year that adopted sex education standards. At the time the legislation was adopted the State allowed school districts to opt out of the standards. Roughly 70% of the school districts chose not to adopt the standards. However, the State just presented HB5188 that if it had passed,

would have mandated all districts to adopt the standards. Opposition to the teaching stopped the bill from reaching the floor.

XII. Veterans Assistance

There was no report from Veterans Assistance.

XIII. Zoning / Planning

Dee Duffy reported the following information from the Zoning Office:

- The ZBA met on January 5, 2023, and will have one petition coming to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the January County Board Meeting.
- If HB 4412 passes it would require all Illinois Counties to align themselves with the State's goals for renewable energy. This would infringe upon the County's authority to regulate land use. It would also require the County to modify the recently adopted wind and solar ordinances to meet the State mandates.

A. Action Items

1. Petitions Going To the Zoning Board of Appeals - None
2. Petitions Coming From the Zoning Board of Appeals - ~~None~~
**Petition 22-P-1594 will be placed on the Executive Committee agenda.
3. Petitions Going To the Planning Commission - None
4. Petitions Coming From the Planning Commission - None

XIV. Unfinished Business

There were no items under Unfinished Business.

XV. New Business

The committee walked through the OnBoard voting system. The process was smoother, but still presented some difficulty.

XVI. Executive Session

There was no request for an executive session.

XVII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 9:39 a.m. **Moved** by Katie White. **Second** by Ron Gascoigne. **Motion** passed unanimously by voice vote.

The next scheduled meeting of the County Services Committee will be 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, February 14, 2023