

Cook County Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 9, 2007
10:00 am

Chairman Todd Stroger called the meeting to order and as is the board's custom, adjourned the meeting for the the Finance Committee report.

I was unable to get a copy of the Finance Committee's agenda either during the meeting or after. There were some questions about the Burge investigation's ongoing cost to the county and a suggestion that juvenile cases be handled before they enter the judicial system.

The regular meeting focused on the new health system's director, Robert Simon, MD.who recommended

- closing underused community based clinics. He stated that
- some clinics see as few as twelve patients a day. Note: The Chicago Tribune, January 11, 2007, using county data reported that
- the Woody Winston Health Center, Phoenix, saw approximately 28 patients a day in 2005. in the same article the Tribune quoted an unidentified clinic staffer who questioned the figures stating that
- the clinic has waiting lists for people trying to get appointments by the medical staff.
- The county's Bureau of Health Services
 - employs nearly 8,000 workers and
 - has an annual budget of \$830 million.

There was no memorable discussion on agenda items for Finance, Roads and Bridges, Zoning and Building Committees. The meeting ended before 12 noon, a second prompt adjournment in my experience

compiled by Julie Sass