

Cook County Board of Commissioners Meeting  
December 4, 2007

Prior to the meeting several holiday songs were performed by a group of children from McDowell School. President Stroger called the meeting to order at 10:17am.

A motion was made to consider an item from the Consent Agenda out of order and approved.

- The item was an ordinance in memory of Charles Branch, brother of Comm. Collins.
- The board then decided to consider the remaining 7 Consent Agenda items which included
  - recognition of 32 years of service for the Norwood Park Township Clerk and recognition of the Supervisor of the Year,
  - memorials to Henry Hyde,
  - recognition of Dennis Hastert on his resignation, and
  - a resolution honoring the life of Harold Washington.

Approving the Consent Agenda took until 11:30am.

The board then voted to consider another item out of order - an item from the New Items Agenda. *(The New Items Agenda is not available to the public at the meeting. The observer did find the information in the Post Action Agenda report on the CC Clerk website several days after the meeting.)*

Item #4 - an ordinance proposed by Comm. Suffredin and Claypool for Creation of CC Bureau of Health Trusteeship. This item was referred to the Health and Hospitals Committee.

Next they considered items #5 and #2 from the New Items agenda. These were amendments to ordinances dealing with Deadly Weapons Dealers and Gun Licenses and Gun Shows. They were both referred to the Legislative, Intergovernmental, and Veterans Affairs Committee.

Then they decided to finish with the New Items Agenda.

Item #3 – an ordinance concerning Homeowners and Bank Protection - referred to Finance Committee.

Item #8 – an ordinance proposed by Comm. Peraica entitled Creation of CC Bureau of Health Trusteeship. On a roll call vote this item was referred to Health and Hospital Committee. (Yes -8- Beavers, Claypool, Daley, Goslin, Peraica, Quigley, Schenider, Silverstri No -6- Butler, Moldonado, Moreno, Murphy, Sims, Steele Present -2- Collins, Gorman Absent -1- Suffredin)

Item #6 – a proposed ordinance by Comm. Silvestri Concerning the Creation of Independent Public Health Governance. This was referred to the Task Force on Hospital Governance.

Item #7 - another ordinance dealing with safe streets and weapons was referred to Legislative, Intergovernmental, and Veterans Affairs Committee.

Item #1 – concerned the extension of a contract with the SunTimes. Ms. Troche-Colvin, the Purchasing Agent, stated that

- they wanted to extend the contract for required advertising of bids while they did an RFP and
- they wanted to use up the remaining \$250,000 that was in the account before committing future funds.

Comm. Peraica then asked about accounts which still have money in them and he wanted to know how long it would take to close the books on the 2007 fiscal year. The Comptroller stated that the books should be able to be closed out by March or April.

At this point Comm. Daley asked that another item be taken out of order and that Mr. Colson from the RTA Board be allowed to brief the board on the RTA budget as required by law. He did and his report was received and filed.

President Stroger then

- announced that Mr. Small has been appointed the Chief Operating Officer of the Health Bureau and
- he thanked Tom Glaser for his interim service.
- Mr. Small stated that he is looking forward to the challenges ahead in and stated that he thrives on transparency.

Dr. Simon then recognized persons from the lab and medical records at Stroger Hospital and said that they had reorganized their departments and they were now operating well.

At 12:30pm. Comm. Daley called the Finance Committee Meeting to order.

- Action on all agenda items was approved as recommended with minimal discussion.
- Comm. Daley announced that on Wednesday or Thursday of next week there would be a Public Hearing on the taxes proposed by Comm. Moldonado and Comm. Beavers. When the commissioners asked whether the meeting would include a vote on the taxes,
- Comm. Daley said he did not think there were enough votes to approve any taxes but that it was required by law that there be a public hearing on proposed taxes.
- Comm. Goslin then asked what was going on with the budget. Comm. Daley stated that at the present time there was no date for reconvening on the budget since there did not appear to be support for increasing taxes and therefore there needed to be some work done on cutting expenses.

The Finance Committee adjourned at 12:48pm.

Comm. Silvestri called the Zoning and Building Committee to order at 12:50pm. Action on all agenda items was approved as recommended. The meeting was adjourned at 12:51pm.

Comm. Moreno called the Roads and Bridges Committee to order at 12:51pm. Action on all agenda items was approved as recommended. The meeting was adjourned at 12:53pm.

Comm. Moreno reconvened the board meeting at 12:53pm and President Stroger returned to continue presiding at 12:55pm.

The board agenda has been reorganized into a different format that groups all items for the different elected officials and bureaus together.

Item #1 was concerned with bringing the cable regulations into compliance with state law and a motion was made to refer it to the Finance Committee. A roll call vote was called for since some of the commissioners thought it should just be approved. The motion to refer was approved. (Yes-8- Claypool, Gorman, Goslin, Moldonado, Peraica, Quigley, Schneider, Silvestri No-7-Beavers, Daley, Moreno, Murphy, Sims, Steele, Beavers Absent-2-Collins, Suffredin)

Action on all remaining items was approved as recommended with very little discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 1:12pm.

Reported by  
Cynthia Schilsky LWVCC Observer