

Cook County Board Meeting
April 18th 2006 10:00AM

The Board room was overflowing with young people before 10:00AM. Pres. Pro tem Mario Moreno (7) introduced the attendees as IIT's current grad students.

This short meeting, opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Finance committee, Zoning and Building, Roads and Bridges all completed by 10:37am.

Comm. Moreno ran a very effective meeting. Agenda ran smoothly with only a few glitches that proved interesting and entertaining

Item #21 proposed contract addendum from the Clerk of the Circuit Court was a mind-boggler. **A request for an additional \$50,000.00 to a \$95,000.00 contract** was referred to the Finance Committee. The contractor was to "perform a comprehensive operational efficiency follow-up of the implementation of the revised operating policies and procedures resulting from the prior comprehensive review of work flow and human resources allocations in the Civil and County bureaus and suburban operations." Having read the request Comm. Quigley (10) said "shame on us."

An interesting turn of events came when Comm. Claypool (2) asked for a roll call vote on Agenda item #31 which was to **increase and extend a contract to ESI who provide a service for the Bureau of Health Services institutions**. The agency undertakes the task of proving individuals turned down by Medicaid are indeed eligible. The company is paid 10 – 12 % of the monies then paid by Medicaid to the county. The estimated **revenue generated for the Bureau of Health is \$102,000,000.00**.

Comm. Collins (1) and Comm. Hansen (15) argued parliamentary procedure with underlying muffled shouts from the back of the room about parliamentary procedure and found themselves in agreement that a roll call was in order. The roll call vote was withdrawn.

Jerry Robinson, Superintendent, Juvenile Temporary Detention Center, requested **\$50,000.00 for an additional mental health provider** for the 400 juveniles at the center. There is only one psychologist at this time. **Approved.**

.Joint Conference Committee reports from Oak Forest Hospital, Provident Hospital and Stroger Hospital were received and filed. Discussion was on the floor of **the need for training of new LPNs for the hospitals**. Comm. Butler (3) mentioned a real need for more and also new equipment for Provident Hospital. It was stated that there are 60,000 emergency visits to the hospital annually. Discussion was that hospital equipment is considered old at 6 – 8 years depending on use and maintenance.

There is a **Center for Conflict Resolution** (Center) staffed by volunteer lawyers at 11 E. Adams in Chicago. This group helps keep neighbor and neighborhood disputes out of the County Court rooms. Comm. Suffredin (13) said "it is a model for communities to

resolve issues.” The website is www.ccrchicago.org. The disbursement of funds from the Not-For-Profit Dispute Resolution Fund was approved.

The end of an era. Comm. Suffredin (13) proposed a resolution (Senate Bill 2654) that would **dissolve the Suburban Cook County Tuberculosis Sanitarium District**. All Commissioners joined him. This is a small government unit that appears on our tax bill at a rate of 0.001. This tax base will be added to the tax base of Cook County. The Cook County department of Public Health will be responsible for prevention and treatment. The real estate will be returned to the Forest Preserve.

Two pieces of property were reclassified Class 6b for a tax incentive. One would add 50 new jobs and one that has 50 employees will add 15.

At 12:30am an executive meeting was called and the board room was cleared.

Observed and reported by Mary Ann Tate