

Cook County Board of Commissioners Meeting
May 15, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am by Board President Todd Stroger. All Commissioners were present.

Comm. Daley requested that New Item #11 from the New Items Agenda be considered first but the Clerk did not have a copy of this item. Several commissioners then stated that they did not have copies of the New Items Agenda and they were unclear about what new items were to be considered. There were also some commissioners that stated they did not have copies of the Consent Calendar.

While waiting for copies to be provided to the commissioners, President Stroger introduced Antoine Hilton as the new Chief of Information Technology. Comm. Peraica asked Mr. Hilton with whom he had met prior to being hired and Mr. Hilton stated that he had met with Comm. Beavers committee. Mr. Hilton was asked to review his previous experience since the commissioners had not yet seen his CV. He stated that he had been responsible for the IT infrastructure of Aurora, Illinois for the past 3 years.

After copies of the New Items Agenda and the Consent Calendar were distributed to the commissioners, Comm. Daley again requested that Item #11 – a communication from President Stroger concerning the Shakman Decree - be considered.

- In a letter to the commissioners President Stroger reported that over 200 employees had been trained in hiring practices to be in compliance with the Shakman Decree and
- that the training is available for review on the website. Motion to Receive and File – approved.
- Comm. Peraica asked President Stroger about his hiring of employees and whether his hires were exempt.
- Comm. Sims asked the State's Attorney if the Board was allowed to meet with Judge Nowicki, the Compliance Coordinator.
- The State's Attorney said that the Board could meet with her and the commissioners requested that a meeting be set up to meet with her.

At 10:30am Comm. Daley called the Finance Committee meeting to order.

Comm. Peraica asked about Juvenile Cases that date back to 1996 and

- wondered why they continue to require on-going legal representation and payment – and if they do can a running total for each case be presented to the commissioners.
- The SA stated they did not have the capacity to do that.
- Comm. Daley stated it would be too complicated to get a total on each case but that totals are kept collectively for all cases.
- Comm. Suffredin stated that many of these cases are neglect cases and court monitoring goes on until the child is 18.
- Comm. Silvestri asked if the cases are monitored to determine if they need to continue.
- A suggestion was made that perhaps a request should be made for a presentation on these concerns to the Litigation Committee.

- Comm. Quigley stated that perhaps they could find out where the decision is made to have multiple lawyers and how they judges decide who to appoint. Is there a pool of attorney's on a list that is used by the judges?
- Comm. Butler stated that this was not moving the business of the Board forward and that discussion should be stopped.
- After a few more comments the motion to approve the payments was approved.

Comm. Peraica questioned payment of item #286773 under Bills and Claims, that involved a payment under the Homeland Security Grant. Comm. Peraica expressed his concern about the lack of progress on the homeland security process, Project Shield. Comm. Moreno stated that Comm. Peraica was completely out of order in his remarks and that Project Shield is a great system.

Under the Bids Report a question was raised about the Sheriff handling the janitorial services at the Juvenile Detention Center. Zelda Whittler from the Sheriff's office stated that the Sheriff's office will handle the janitorial services.

Comm. Daley stated that the 2005 Audit is expected to be on the June Board Agenda. The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:12am.

Comm. Silvestri called the Zoning and Building Meeting to order at 11:13am. Comm. Peraica asked how long Items #268663 and 268664 had been pending. These items were applications for variances that were recommended to receive one year extensions. The coding for the requests created some confusion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20am.

Comm. Moreno called the Roads and Bridges meeting to order at 11:20am. The agenda was approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:21am.

The Board meeting reconvened at 11:23am. Comm. Goslin asked leave to take the following items out of order, all dealing with Health Services: Items #18, 19, 28, 29, 32, 37, 38, 47, 54, 55, 56, 57, 70, 71. By considering the items first, those persons at the meeting from the Dept. of Health Services could then return to their jobs and not have to wait through the entire meeting. The Clerk was asked if the agenda could be arranged in the future to consider Health Services items first, but the representative from the clerk's office stated that the databank by subject matter would need to be changed to alter the agenda and that would require some adjustment. The selected health services items were considered first which lead to some confusion as the meeting progressed and the remaining items were considered but most items were acted on with minimal discussion.

In Committee Reports the Legislation, Intergovernmental and Veterans Relations Committee report of May 2, 2007 was presented as a divided report. The body of the report was presented for adoption by the Board but the voting record on four job appointments was divided from the report to allow Comm. Quigley to cast his vote for the appointments since he had been absent from the meeting. His vote was allowed and he voted in favor of the appointment of Carmen Triche-Colvin as Purchasing Agent and voted against the appointments of Joseph Fratto as County Comptroller, Mark Kilgallon as Chief Administrative Officer, and Donna Dunning as Chief Financial Officer. He stated that his vote against the appointments was the result of the way the budget had been handled.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50pm to allow for the unveiling of the portrait of John Stroger, former Cook County Board President.

Reported by
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