

Special Executive/Legislation Committee
Thursday October 3, 2024
Joseph G. Cannon Building, 2nd Floor, 5:00 PM

MINUTES

Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Larry Baughn, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Upon the call of roll, the following members were present: Larry Baughn, Jr., Craig Golden, Steve Miller, Jerry Hawker, and, Mark Steinbaugh. Joe Eakle and Nancy O’Kane were excused. 5 Present 2 Absent. Also attending the meeting were: Lon Henderson- County Board Member, Dalitso Sulamoyo – RPC, Brandi Granse – RPC Early Childhood Education Program, and Jennifer Jenkins - County Board Office Manager.

Agenda Item 2 - Adoption/Amendment to the Agenda

Motion by Steinbaugh, seconded by Golden to approve the agenda. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 3 - Approval of Minutes from August 28, 2024

Steinbaugh moved, seconded by Golden, to approve the August 28, 2024 minutes. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 4 - Audience Comments

None

Agenda Item 5 – Intergovernmental Agreement for Champaign and Vermilion Counties Head Start and Early Head Start

Baughn advised that Dalitso Sulamoyo and Brandi Granse are joining, tonight, from Champaign County. Baughn advised that in the past there was grant money that was lost and we will work with Champaign County to try to get this back. Granse addressed the committee as the Director of the Champaign County Regional Planning Commission. She has been with the program for 28 years. This Head Start program is very important and she is anxious for the opportunity to write for this grant to expand out to Ford, Iroquois, and Vermilion County The federal budget that they were awarded was \$5,647,381.00. These funds will help bring back this program to our community. They will be serving 300 children & pregnant women. The current program does not offer this however this is their plan, to expand their services. 240 of the 300 children will be preschool children, 3-5 years of age. 60 infants, toddlers, and pregnant women for the Early Head Start program. There are different types of programs that they will be offering, such as; center based programming- there are 5 locations for these programs - Kimball Street, Voorhees Street, Gilman, Paxton, and Watseka. Kimball Street location does need some work. These center based programs will be full-day, full year. Currently they are only operation 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, 42 weeks a year. Their hours will also be extended to accommodate working families. They are also collaborating with several family child care providers to offer head start services within their homes. They will contract with them and provide them with the educational programming, health, nutritional, and support for children with disabilities, within their homes. They also offer counseling, if required to the family, and even dental care. There is also care for pregnant women. Family advocates will visit the home and discuss their baby, and general health care. Henderson asked if they coordinate with any of the existing school or after school programs. She advised that they do, currently, in Champaign County, coordinate with all of the school districts, and the child and family connection by way of inter-agency agreement. They will do the same thing here. Sulamoyo explained that he is the Chief Executive Officer of the organization in Champaign. Some of the history of this program in Champaign, was actually ran by the Community Action program until around 1994. They gave up the program and Champaign County applied for it and they have been operating it since then. He has been a part of the operation for a little over 7 years. There is a long history of providing police training which includes Vermilion County, Champaign County, and Piatt County. They provide ongoing, professional development, to police officers. The Sheriff and the Chief are members of their advisory board. They have a mobile training unit to serve the above mentioned counties. This has been implemented since 1977. They are looking forward to moving this program into Ford and Iroquois Counties as well, however, Vermilion County will be the biggest operation. Steinbaugh asked what can the Vermilion County Board do to expedite this. Sulamoyo advised that they are asking to allow Champaign Regional Planning Commission to provide these services in Vermilion County, hence, the Intergovernmental Agreement. Hawker asked if there was any financial obligation for the County and Sulamoyo advised no. Motion by Steinbaugh, second by Golden to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement. Motion passed by acclamation, Miller- Nay.

Agenda Item 6 – Ordinance: Amending the County of Vermilion Ordinance Establishing an Enterprise Zone within the City of Danville and Vermilion County, to Add Territory and Add Unit of Government to the Danville/Vermilion County Enterprise Zone

Baughn advised that he had been working with the Village of Tilton, along with the Mayor of Danville, and Logan Cronk for more than a year ago on this. It's good to see the City of Danville and the Village Tilton working together for the betterment of the community. Baughn advised that with the maps that were provided, it makes everything somewhat more contiguous, with the exception of Winter Park and Bowman to the airport. This update will add a lot more rent dollars from the Department of Economic, Commerce, and Opportunity in Springfield. Basically, they are just wanting to dispense the grant funds contingent upon the signing of this ordinance. This goes all of the way up to Walmart. Hawker asked if this included the Ross Lane area. Baughn advised that it does. Hawker also advised that the smell coming from the dispensary is awful. Maybe Tilton could do something about this? Motion by Miller, second by Steinbaugh. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 7 – Resolution: RE: Vermilion County Board Supporting Rural Broadband Development in Vermilion County

Baughn advised that he spoke with Mike Marron, Vermilion Advantage, and Frontier Communications is putting in some bids with the State of Illinois to try to get some renewable dollars for downstate, rural areas, in Illinois with the Office of Broadband to approve some applications. Marron and Baughn anticipate several companies presenting these applications therefore, they made the resolution to read for anyone that applies, then the County supports them during the application process. Motion by Hawker, second by Miller. Motion passed by acclamation.

Agenda Item 8 – Executive Session-

No action needed

Agenda Item 9 - Items of Information

The EMA facility on Georgetown Road will soon be demolished. There are still some items that Building and Grounds will need to remove.

Cassy sent out final budgets to board members today, for their review.

Agenda Item 10- Adjournment

Chairman Baughn adjourned the meeting at 5:37 P.M.

Minutes by: Jennifer Jenkins, County Board Office Manager