

Proceedings of the Ogle County Board
October 19, 2004

State of Illinois)
County of Ogle) ss
City of Oregon)

Call to Order

Chairman Gocken calls the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m..

Roll Call:

Roll Call shows Clayton, Nye and Stahl are absent. The Invocation is given by Jason Bauer and this is followed with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Gocken asks for a motion to approve the September 21, 2004, Ogle County Board meeting minutes. Jim Swanson moves to approve the September 21, 2004, Ogle County Board minutes. Carol Hoekstra seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Approval of Reports

Jerry Daws moves to accept and place on file the monthly reports of the Circuit Clerk, County Clerk/Recorder and Treasurer. Doug Zuehl seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Master's Business Interiors presentation

Kim Gouker states this process for the moving of the departments from the old Courthouse to the new Judicial Center is needed to help assist the department heads with space efficiency. Gouker introduces Anna Engelert of Master's Business Interiors to provide a presentation to the board. The following is the proposal from Master's Business Interiors:

SERVICES:

Existing furniture

- ⊗ Evaluate existing furniture and work with the department heads to determine the furniture that will be moved to the new facility

New Furniture

- ⊗ Evaluate new furniture needs with department heads
- ⊗ Recommend, provide and review product samples with Ogle County Administration
- ⊗ Provide color boards that reflect furniture finishes

End Product

- ⊗ Furniture layout indicating placement of both existing and new furniture
- ⊗ Furniture specifications
- ⊗ Final color board
- ⊗ Phase structure for furniture acquisition (if necessary)

PRICE:

\$3,000 to \$5,000
Not to exceed \$5,000

CONDITIONS:

Communication between Master's and Ogle County to be routed through clearly specified staff members or department heads. Approval for project details to come from pre-determined individual or committee.

Two color board options to be provided. Color boards and layouts limited to two revisions.

Design and space planning services will be provided within 60-day period of time.

Additional products or services may be provided upon written agreement of Ogle County and Master's Business Interiors

The above-mentioned fees and services to be waived under the condition that 90% of the new furniture for the Ogle County Judicial Center is purchased from Master's Business Interiors

Ed Rice asks if Master's will look at the used furniture market for any purchases? Ms. Engelert says absolutely yes they will use the used furniture market for large scale projects. Judge Pemberton asks Ms. Engelert to discuss the Bradford files. Ms. Engelert describes the high density mobile file system and these units roll. These units are a very efficient way of storing and accessing records and you have probably seen them in doctor's offices, libraries and National Archives. There is a used system that is being pulled out of a law office in Chicago and for various reasons it is more cost effective for them to purchase a new system. Horner asks Gouker how much new furniture is needed? Gouker replies that's why this assessment is being done. Remhof asks once this is approved and the study is complete, what funds will be used for the purchase and will the equipment be purchased in bulk or will this be micro-managed? Gouker states one of the items will be a specification of furniture and will ask for a bid. Gouker says funds for the equipment purchase will be based on the assessment and may be phased in over two years. Rice asks if the funds will come from Long Range Planning Fund, General Budget or borrowed money? Gouker states it will not come from construction funds. Brooks says he would like to ask the Department Heads how they feel about this assessment. Judge Pemberton says this is an important first step and he hopes a lot of the furniture from this courthouse will go to the new Judicial Center. Marty Typer states it takes a lot of time to learn various elements needed to make an office more efficient and he sees an advantage to having the experts come in and complete an assessment. Deb Ellis says she agrees with the Judge and Typer regarding the assessment. Ellis also states that all of the offices have strict requirements both legally and practically and store information for a lengthy periods of time. It is important to have files easily accessible and she does not have the time or expertise for these type of office decisions. Ed Rice asks Ms. Engelert if they have completed any jobs in the area and have they done any work with governmental bodies? Ms. Engelert says they have done work for Blackhawk Presbytery/Stronghold, DeKalb County and NIU.

Resignation

Chairman Gocken informs the board there is a letter of resignation on file from David J. Dahl on the Ogle County Housing Authority effective October 31, 2004. Ed Rice moves to accept the resignation, Carol Hoekstra seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Vacancies:

Chairman Gocken announces the following vacancies:

Board of Health - 3 full terms ending November 20, 2007

Application deadline for these appointments will be Friday, October 29, 2004, at 4:30 p.m. in the Ogle County Clerk's Office.

Vacancies: (continued)

Ogle County Housing Authority - full term ends October 31, 2009
Ogle County Housing - 1 unexpired term ends October 31, 2005
Mental Health "708" Board - 2 full terms ending December 31, 2008
Ogle County Weed Commissioner

Chairman Gocken states the committee will be looking into whether or not the county needs a Weed Commissioner.

The deadline for the appointments will be Friday, November 26, 2004
at 4:30 P.M. in the Ogle County Clerk's Office.

Resolution - Intergovernmental Mutual Aid Agreement - IPHMAS

Doreen O'Brien states this resolution was presented at last months County Board meeting. Doreen states this came about because of Bio-terrorism and law enforcement has had this type of agreement for a long time. Ron Colson moves to accept the resolution, Chris Remhof seconds and a roll call vote is called:

YES: Johnson, Kenney, Remhof, Rice, Saunders, Scholl, Spencer,
Swanson, Bauer, Brooks, Colbert, Colson, Conn, Daws, Gouker,
Hoekstra, Hopkins, Horner, Huntley and Gocken

NO: none

ABSENT: Nye, Stahl, Zuehl and Clayton

The motion carries on a roll call vote. (Placed on file)

Zoning - Variation - Will Clark

The clerk reads application for a Variation to the Special Flood Hazard Areas Ordinance of Will Clark, 8350 N. Hales Corner Rd., Stillman Valley, IL that would allow a detached garage to be constructed in a "Special Flood Hazard Area" with the lowest floor elevation at 685.21' above mean sea level in lieu of the required flood protection elevation of 688.1' above mean sea level. Tom Scholl moves to approve this variation for Will Clark. Chris Remhof seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Zoning - #9-04 SPECIAL USE: Macklin Incorporated

The clerk reads the petition of Macklin Incorporated, 6089 S. Dement Rd., Rochelle, IL for a Special Use Permit to allow an asphalt-ready mix plant in AG-1 Agricultural District on property described as follows and owned by Robert C. & Patricia C. Macklin as co-trustees of Robert C. Macklin Revocable Trust dated June 3, 1992, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; Robert C. & Patricia C. Macklin as co-trustees of Patricia C. Macklin Revocable Trust dated June 3, 1992, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; J. Dale & Wanda L. Macklin as co-trustees of J. Dale Macklin Revocable Trust dated October 2, 1990, as to an undivided 1/4 interest; and J. Dale & Wanda L. Macklin as co-trustees of Wanda L. Macklin Revocable Trust dated October 2, 1990, as to an undivided 1/4 interest :

Part E1/2 NW1/4 Section 20 Dement Township 40N, R2E of the 3rd P.M., Ogle County, IL, 4.26 acres, more or less. P.I.N.: Part of 25-20-200-008
Common Location: 6089 S. Dement Rd.

Tom Scholl moves to grant this request, Sven Johnson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Zoning - #17-04 AMENDMENT: Steven L. & Tina M. Gould

The clerk reads the petition of Steven L. & Tina M. Gould, 3299 Whitaker Rd., Byron, IL for an Amendment to the Zoning District to rezone from IA Intermediate Agricultural District to R-1 Rural Residence District on property described as follows and owned by the petitioners:

Part of the NE1/4 NW1/4 Section 7 Marion Township 24N, R11E of the 4th P.M., Ogle County, IL, 5.00 acres, more or less. P.I.N.: Part of 10-07-100-003
Common Location: 3299 Whitaker Rd., Byron, IL

Tom Scholl moves to concur with the Zoning Board of Appeals and approve this request. Kim Gouker seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Zoning - Resolution - Ogle County Amendatory Comprehensive Plan - 2K4 Update

The clerk states this resolution was read at the September Ogle County Board meeting and was held over until this month for a vote. Ron Colson moves to adopt the 2K4 Update of the Ogle County Amendatory Comprehensive Plan. Jerry Daws seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Road & Bridge - Petition of Vacation - portion of Grange Road - Flagg Twp

The clerk presents the Petition of Vacation for a portion of Grange Road from the Road Commissioner of Flagg Township - this information was included in the County Board packets. Bill Spencer moves to approve this Petition of Vacation, Ron Colson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Road & Bridge - Resolution of Vacation - portion of Grange Rd - Flagg Twp

The clerk presents the Resolution of Vacation for a portion of Grange Road in Flagg Township - this information was included in the County Board packets. Bill Spencer moves to approve the Resolution of Vacation, Ron Colson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Road & Bridge - Application & Ordinance for the establishment of an altered speed zone - Mulford Rd

The clerk presents the Application and Ordinance to establish an altered speed zone on Mulford Rd from Meadow Lane to IL Route 72 (0.556 miles) to 45 mph. This information was presented at last months meeting, to be approved this month. Bill Spencer moves to approve Application and Ordinance as presented, Doug Zuehl seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Recess to Refer Claims to Committee

At 6:35 p.m., Chris Remhof moves to refer claims to committees, Jerry Daws seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote. Chairman Gocken calls the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m..

Claims

The clerk reads the claims for the General Fund - \$79,447.58 and the County Highway Fund - \$89,721.94. Sven Johnson moves to accept claims as read, Jerry Daws seconds. The motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Committee Reports

The following committees had no additional report other than the minutes that are placed on exhibit: *County Clerk & Insurance, Buildings & Grounds, Judiciary & Circuit Clerk, Juvenile & Probation, State’s Attorney & Legislative, Road & Bridge and Economic Development* . The following had no minutes to file: *Board of Health, Illinois Assoc. of County Board Members, U.C.C.I, Illinois Risk Management, Mental Health “708’ Board, Safety Committee, IT Committee, Safety Committee, 9-1-1 ETS Board, Liquor Commission, G.I.S. Committee, Byron Dragway and Ogle Co. AG.*

Finance & Revenue

Minutes placed on exhibit

Budget

Bill Spencer states a copy of last budget proposal was included with the Finance Committee minutes -

**TENTATIVE Annual Department Budget
Approved by Ogle County Finance Committee
October 15, 2004**

	Current 2004 Budget	Proposed 2005	Difference
County Clerk	573,130	382,659	(190,471)
Building & Grounds	658,200	631,926	(26,274)
Treasurer	152,770	154,907	2,137
HEW	309,065	281,587	(27,478)
Judiciary & Jury	280,008	283,925	3,917
Circuit Clerk	484,500	491,277	6,777
Probation	537,647	545,167	7,520
Focus House	744,748	755,165	10,417
Assessment	240,938	244,308	3,370
Zoning	161,885	164,149	2,264
Sheriff	3,057,089	3,099,851	42,762
Coroner	139,680	141,634	1,954
State’s Attorney	573,666	581,690	8,024
Insurance	1,469,200	1,720,500	251,300
Finance	539,583	519,750	(19,833)
Economic Development	73,922	74,956	1,034
Corrections	951,380	999,688	48,308
TOTAL	\$10,947,411	\$11,073,139	\$ 125,728
Projected Income		\$10,517,440	
Additional Income		555,699	
Total Projected Income		\$11,073,139	
Proj. Surplus (Deficit)		\$ 0	

Remhof asks about the additional income figure, where does this number come from? Gouker states during the budget process there was \$470,000 from the Insurance Levy and the rest they have anticipated about \$55,000 in additional income that would become available with the EAV increase from Byron and Flagg Township. Gouker states there is also \$35,000 that the Circuit Clerk will be contributing to the General Fund. Remhof asks Typer what fund will the \$35,000 be coming from? Typer states he made a proposal to the Finance Committee concerning \$35,000 and that proposal was rejected, he is unaware of this contribution. Typer states he was approached over the weekend regarding the \$35,000 contribution and Typer said the contribution had been rejected and he has not heard anything from the Finance Committee. Rice states the condition was Typer would contribute \$35,000 if the Finance Committee would give it back to him and this doesn't make any sense. Spencer states they are setting a bottom line and the department heads are to set their own budgets. Kenney asks why the County Clerk is taking a hit of \$190,000? County Clerk Huntley states the grant she received in the amount of \$166,000 for the Optical Scan machines was included in her 2004 budget. Huntley also states that in the odd years she has one election and the amounts flip flop. Huntley says she has received figures for her budget and it does not include any salary increases for her staff. Scholl asks where is that money going to come from? There was more discussion regarding the additional income figure and where it comes from. There was discussion regarding the trigger figure, increase in property taxes and the Senior Homestead Exemption which was increased by the Governor. Kenney asks if this proposed budget does not allow for any increases in any department across the board? There was no definite answer to Kenney's question. Chairman Gocken says the Health Department has but an additional \$25,000 from her budget because she has received money from Homeland Security. Gouker states each department except for Insurance and Finance received a pro-rated increase to use as they want. Remhof asks how many departments was this figure divided among? There are 15 departments involved. Don Conn states a couple of months ago the salary was increased \$2,000 for the Coroner when he takes office. However, the budget will go up by \$1,954 and the Coroner's Office has been running short on money for autopsies. Conn also talks about Jim Harrison and the \$35,000 for mapping which he is required to do by law and has been taken away. Conn does not agree with this budget as it is presented. Conn also states that the cuts in the Sheriff Department as not being any good because the Sheriff will not have the money to staff the new Judicial Center. Gouker has talked to Harrison and they will have to adjust the money for mapping and this money was inadvertently left out it was not cut from the Assessor's budget. Remhof asks if there will be a document with line item figures available for the October 27th Budget

October 19, 2004

Hearing that will somehow reflect these changes? Gouker states this is the tentative agreement and this is what we have been working on. Saunders talks about the money in the County Clerk's budget and adjustments/increases for Huntley's Office. Saunders states two years ago it was voted the County Clerk receive a \$1,500 increase. With \$5,200 over what was requested, this will leave \$3,700 to distribute between seven employees in her office this year. This does not allow anything comparable to what has been given out in the Circuit Clerk's Office. There is also no salary adjustments/increases for the Zoning and Assessment Offices. Scholl asks what happens when the Union for the Sheriff's Department is settled, where is that money going to come from? Spencer states they haven't found money for that and does not know what that figure will be. Huntley says you cannot use the \$470,000 shown as income since it is considered a wash and it shouldn't be there.

H.E.W.

Minutes placed on exhibit

Flu Vaccine

Doreen O'Brien refers to the Flu handout she has distributed and discusses the shortage of the Flu vaccine. O'Brien says Ogle County has not received any Flu vaccine at this time and may not receive any until December. O'Brien says the administrators of the Nursing Homes in the area are worried what this will do for their long term patients. O'Brien is working with another county to see what they can work out for the Nursing Homes.

Solid Waste

Minutes placed on exhibit

Negotiating Committee

Chairman Gocken states a motion was made and approved to establish a negotiating Committee consisting of Shirley Clayton, Betty Gocken and Steve Rypkema to investigate the possibility of developing a landfill or landfills in Ogle County. Remhof asks if there is a time frame where this might go with the negotiating team and possible siting, is there anything to add to that? Chairman Gocken says no, Clayton is out of town and she has asked Rypkema to set up appointments with the two companies. Rice asks if these meetings are open to County Board members? Chairman Gocken says negotiating meetings are not open meetings. Rice asks if these are closed negotiating meetings, will they be recorded? Chairman Gocken asks Deb Ellis if they need to be recorded? Ellis states it depends if you can lawfully close the meeting. Remhof asks if Gocken and Clayton constitute the majority quorum of the committee? Ellis states if there is a majority of a quorum of the committee at the meeting, then it needs to be an open meeting. Chairman Gocken states it is a six member committee and they are the 2 board members on the committee.

Electronics Recycling Event

Chairman Gocken announces the Electronics Recycling Event that will be held on October 29th and October 30th at the Oregon Commerce Center.

Judiciary and Circuit Clerk Minutes placed on exhibit

HB269 Bobbie Colbert informs the board the information regarding HB269 was included in the packets. Bobbie Colbert moves to approve the resolution to raise the fees on HB269. Ron Colson seconds. Spencer comments these new fees will be used as income on the FY2005 Budget and is expected to be about \$50,000. Chairman Gocken states some of these fees were increased the year before, but the board did not increase all fees at that time. The motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Planning, Assessment & Zoning Minutes placed on exhibit

ZBA Meeting Tom Scholl announces the next meeting will be October 28, 2004.

Blackhawk Hills RC&D No minutes

Update Ron Colson states there is an update included in the packets this month.

C.E.D.S. Resolution Chairman Gocken informs the board she has received the Blackhawk Hills Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for 2004. Chairman Gocken reads the resolution and it will be held over until next month.

Planning Commission Minutes placed on exhibit

Meeting Tom Scholl announces the next meeting will be held on October 21st at the Eswood School in Lindenwood.

Tri-County Opportunities Minutes placed on exhibit

Meeting Bill Spencer says the next meeting will be on October 26th at the Lee County Senior Center.

Safety Committee No minutes

Update Fred Horner has received information from Judge Pemberton and will get this information to the Safety Committee for a meeting.

Personnel & Salary Minutes placed on exhibit

Reminder Pat Saunders says the committee is still concerned about not being able to get the adjustments/increases for all of the employees. The ideas presented to the Finance Committee were not well received. Saunders says the committee is open to any suggestions.

Long Range Planning Minutes placed on exhibit

Update on progress Jerry Guy says the water main work will begin next week for the Judicial Center. There was discussion regarding flat roofs, drainage and snow load on the roof of the Judicial Center. Guy also discusses further progress for the Judicial Center project.

Bills for approval

Kim Gouker discusses the Change Order column for Lind Associates, Inc. - the line item was not to exceed \$36,225 and they charged \$34,078.35. This is not considered a Change Order, but he included the figure of -\$2,146.65 on the spreadsheet to bring the Contract Balance to zero.

Kim Gouker reviews the various bills which have been submitted for payment. Kim Gouker moves to approve payment of the October 2004 expenditures from the Judicial Center Project Fund in the amount of \$630,509.93. Sven Johnson seconds and the motion to approve the bills as presented carries on a voice vote.

Change Orders

Gouker states about one month ago they started discussion on placing a time capsule at the Judicial Center. This project could be incorporated with the Elementary Schools in Ogle County. Jerry Guy says this will be Change Order #7-001 from Sjostrom and Sons for the purchase and installation of time capsule for an amount of \$1,650.73. Kim Gouker moves to approve this Change Order #7-001, Bobbie Colbert seconds and the motion carries.

Computer System

Ron Colson states there is a need for 2 switches to have two separate systems for the Sheriff's Department and Circuit Clerk. There needs to be a controlled and secure system to meet different law enforcement security requirements and to have a public access which is open to the public. Then new IP addresses will need to be given to the various computers. Colson states Dynamic Horizons will reprogram the various computers as needed. Colson states it is expected to cost around \$16,000 or \$17,000 and the motion was made not to exceed \$20,000 in case something comes up at the last minute. Gouker states this project is defined as "infrastructure" and money to fund this will come from the Long Range Capital Improvement Fund. Sheriff Messer explains why this is needed for his department and the Circuit Clerk's Office. Ron Colson moves to allocate from the Long Range Capital Improvement Fund an amount not to exceed \$20,000 to separate the county's computer network (1 secure and 1 open), Lyle Hopkins seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Masters Business Interiors

Kim Gouker moves to accept the contract from Masters Business Interiors for the purpose of equipment assessment, space planning and moving co-ordination for moving to the Ogle County Judicial Center, Sven Johnson seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.(Placed on file)

Judicial Center Utilities

Kim Gouker states it was discussed at the Building & Grounds meeting last month to have the utility expenses of the Judicial Center come out of the Long Range Capital Improvement Fund. Kim Gouker moves to make payment of all utility expenses (electricity, gas, water & sewer) taken from the Long Range Capital Improvement Fund until December 1, 2005 or after the punch list is

complete and contract has received final payment (which ever date is later). Lyle Hopkins seconds. Pat Saunders amends the motion to include an additional \$5,000 for janitorial services at the Judicial Center with the same time frame as the original motion. Kim Gouker seconds and the amended motion carries on a voice vote. Chairman Gocken asks for a voice vote on the original motion and the original motion carries on a voice vote.

IT Committee

Minutes placed on exhibit

Update on Accounting

Ron Colson states the minutes will be included in next month's packets. Colson states John Coffman attended the meeting to discuss the new accounting program from New World. Colson says the report will be extensive and wants to review the information with Coffman before it is submitted in the packets.

Executive Committee

Minutes placed on exhibit

Economic Development

Chairman Gocken informs the board the Economic Development Task Force did invite members to a meeting. The members who where in attendance were very excited about the possibility of forming an Ogle County Corporation and will be looking into by-laws for the next meeting. Those unable to attend the first meeting had asked to be kept informed of future meetings.

Sheriff & Coroner

Minutes placed on exhibit

N.I.M.S.

Sheriff Mel Messer and Chief Deputy Greg Beitel are present and discuss the N.I.M.S. program which the board approved last month. There are people currently being trained and the County Board will be allowed to attend training. It is recommended that the County Board Chairman, Vice-Chairman and other committee chairman at some point be included in training.

Budget

Sheriff Messer discusses the budget cuts the Sheriff's Department is currently facing with the proposed FY2005 figures. There is not enough money for the Corrections and Jail to operate the jail with officer safety. They will have to cut back on the number of prisoners to accommodate the staff. The Sheriff also talks about fines collected and this year are they over \$100,000 less than last year. Sheriff says since August we have cut back \$250,000 and have not replaced anyone who has left the department. Colson asks how much income have we lost in the last year because of the decrease in INS prisoners? Chief Beitel says we have lost about \$350,000 to \$400,000 of INS income. Sheriff states we still have the Federal Marshall prisoners and that's all they can give the county. The jail can house about 85 to 90 prisoners at one time. It is stated the warrants are going up. They have lost the Warrant Officer and they have no one to send out. Spencer asks if the Health Department can be trained for the N.I.M.S. program? It was stated that Doreen O'Brien and anyone she designates from her staff

can be trained. The training for this program will also need to be offered with the different municipalities. The State will pay for part of the training. The County will pay for the rest when the training begins with the county personnel and there may be a reimbursement of the cost through Homeland Security. Remhof asks the Sheriff how much money does he need? Beitel states if they keep staffing where it is now, the following amounts are needed:

Sheriff \$3,178,000 - Jail \$1,128,649 - ESDA \$91,111

Sheriff states half or more of ESDA is reimbursed to the county. Colbert asks the Sheriff to discuss the new squad car they won. The Sheriff replies the department won a 2004 Chevy Impala with \$35,000 worth of equipment thru the Traffic Safety Program. Kenney asks about how many personnel positions have not been replaced in the Sheriff's Department? Beitel states over the past 2 ½ years, they have lost 5 positions in law enforcement and 3 positions in the jail. The Sheriff states we need to take care of the personnel we have now.

Chairman's Comments

Chairman Gocken updates the members of the board of the various meetings she has attended.

Chairman Gocken reads a prepared statement - Chairman Gocken says other members do not think the Chairman should be involved in the I-39 Corridor development. The Chairman states Ogle County had better be getting into the 21st Century and get with it or we are going to be left sitting here in the middle with the world going around Ogle County. She strongly believes the county needs to be pro-active and be involved with the region around us.

IGA meeting

Chairman Gocken informs the members of the board there will be an IGA meeting on Friday, October 22nd at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comments

Chairman Gocken introduces County Board Candidate Randy Ocken of Lincoln Township.

Communications

- ⇒ Sales Tax for July, 2004 was \$24,128.34 and \$66,023.92
- ⇒ Sales Tax for July, 2003 was \$28,656.11 and \$64,310.81

Unfinished Business

Closed Session

At 8:30 p.m., Chairman Gocken states the County Board will be going into Closed Session to discuss pending litigation regarding the Byron Dragway and the McKnight Quarry. Chairman Gocken asks that Deb Ellis remain in the room. Ed Rice moves to go into Closed Session, Jerry Daws seconds and a roll call vote is called:

YES: Kenney, Remhof, Rice, Saunders, Scholl, Spencer, Swanson, Zuehl, Bauer, Brooks, Colbert, Colson, Conn, Daws, Gouker, Hoekstra,

October 19, 2004

NO: Hopkins, Horner, Huntley, Johnson and Gocken
none

ABSENT: Nye, Stahl and Clayton

The motion carries on a roll call vote.

Return to Open Session

At 9:05 p.m., the County Board returns to Open Session.

New Business

Don Huntley moves to eliminate the position of Economic Development Director of Ogle County and the supporting budget for the 2004 - 2005 budget year and Skip Kenney seconds. Chairman Gocken asks for Deb Ellis to explain how the motion will be handled. Ellis states the motion as she understands it is to eliminate the position of Economic Development Director. If the motion is made in the context of a budget cutting measure and part of the budget deliberations, then the discussion of the agenda item needs to be in public. If the discussion has to do with the person who now occupies the position of Economic Development Director who is an employee of the county, job performance, anything about the position or the person in the position, then that part of the meeting should be closed and allowed to be closed according to the Open Meetings Act. Chairman Gocken says she asked Mrs. Kilker to write an article as to what she has been doing as the Economic Development Director. Chairman Gocken reads information submitted by Kilker. The Chairman states Kilker has helped various villages with comprehensive planning and shows an advertisement in Heartland magazine. Chairman Gocken states she strongly believes in Economic Development and we need it here in Ogle County. Huntley states he made the motion for the budget process to help relieve the budget. Huntley says he acknowledges what Kilker has done for Ogle County and believes that we are not taking care of the employees that we have and doesn't know how they will be taken care of in the future. Huntley says it has been mentioned in two committees of the possibility that this could happen. He says the whole county needs to move toward regional planning and does not believe the county can support an Economic Development Director position at this time. Kenney says the work that has been done is commendable and it is his personal opinion that the county has no business having an Economic Development Director and the county should partner with communities for example - Oregon, Mt. Morris and Rochelle. The communities should have their own Economic Development instead of the county having a budget line item for Economic Development Director along with associated expenses. This is the reason Kenney has seconded the motion. Spencer says the money is in the budget and she has not been hired in 2005, her contract runs out December 31, 2004 and the money is in the budget. Spencer suggests cutting the budget of Probation and Focus House and start saving money or cut the Insurance way down. Spencer says his plan was if they do not hire Kilker and if they do proceed with the Task Force, then this portion of the money would go to the Task Force as the county's contribution. Huntley says if the Judicial Center were to open tomorrow, we would not be able to staff it because the money has been cut from the Buildings & Grounds Committee. If Long Range Planning wants to continue to fund that for the next 4 or 5 years that's fine. There was discussion regarding the \$470,000 that does not exist in the budget because it is a wash and the \$550,000 is not there. Saunders says the money is being budgeted out of a different fund. If the Insurance is cut the only place they can cut is the Health Insurance for the employees. They are already cutting any possible salary adjustment to the employees this year to the non-union employees and if you cut the Health Insurance it will affect all the employees. Kenney says to Spencer you have Union contracts on one side and employees who chose to let management be fair with them and you are not being fair without offering a salary adjustment. Spencer states you cannot cut the salaries of the Union employees. Kenney says that's right and why penalize the people who choose not to. Spencer says let the departments cut people. Huntley says this county has to provide a service but we do not have to provide buildings and infrastructure. Spencer says we do not have to provide Insurance and Focus House either. It was stated that Focus House is the only thing making money for us. Hoekstra says we finally have come up in

the world and created an Economic Development Department and making something regional across the county. There are businesses that want to participate and now we are going to throw it away. This is where we can make some increased tax dollars and make up for shortfalls. Colson says this suggestion is 180 degrees out of sync with logic and the only way we are going to get through budget problems is to increase the EAV and the only way this will happen is through Economic Development. If we cancel out Economic Development we are putting the tax burden on the farmers and home owners. Zuehl says the Economic Development Department was set up with no infrastructure - no land - no water tower - no sewer system. Remhof states we have to make tough decisions in tough times and he suggests to look at the County Board Salary, if you make the cuts here you can give pay raises to the employees. Brooks says we have asked the department heads to tighten their belts and he has been asked how the county board feels? Brooks would like to see a consideration or think about a year without taking a County Board salary or mileage reimbursement and see how it goes. Bauer agrees with Remhof but isn't there an issue about changing the salary before an election? Remhof says there is. Bauer says you could get around that if you do a voluntary payback. Daws says he was responsible for the establishment of the Economic Development Department and knowing we have the potential of losing a large tax base. The idea was at the time that with an Economic Development Department we could generate some of the tax base which would offset the potential loss. Daws states it would be a mistake to eliminate the Economic Development Department at this time. Gouker says the county needs to take the lead with this department. Colbert asks what is the time frame on the Task Force? Chairman Gocken states there has been one meeting and it will take a while to get this started. Chairman Gocken states GREDCO has been without a director for a couple of months. Rice states the City Manager of Rochelle is handling this right now with some consulting from Ken Wise. Gouker states Kilker is working on a large project and now those people are going to read in the paper tomorrow that we are voting to eliminate this department. Hopkins states he was under the assumption there was a transition period from an Ogle County funded department to the Task Force and not just quit cold turkey. This is the only reason he voted to eliminate the position in committee. Conn asks what the contribution of the Task Force will be? Chairman Gocken states there hasn't been economic consideration as to whose going to give what. The Task Force hasn't got that far, they need to talk to the people to see if they are even interested in a Task Force. Then the next question will be what do they want to do. DeKalb County has been contacted since they have an Economic Development Corporation and they have by-laws which we are looking into for the Task Force. Saunders states she understood that through the Executive Committee that this Task Force has been in the works for about 9 months. Chairman Gocken says they have had people coming to the Executive Committee meetings to discuss different options and there has only been one meeting and not everyone was able to attend the first meeting. Colson says the outcome of this vote could leave GREDCO as the only Economic Development Organization in the county. There are two county board members that are members of the GREDCO Board and it would be appropriate for them to abstain from voting on the issue. Rice says what does GREDCO have to do with the budget of Ogle County. Colson states the other 23 townships are left with nothing and he admires the work GREDCO has done but the two members that are members of the GREDCO Board would gain an advantage at the expense to the county. Colson says to remove the question it would be best to abstain from voting. Zuehl asks do you know what GREDCO stands for? It stands for the Greater Rochelle Economic Development which means Oregon, Byron anything for Ogle County. There was a question regarding the motion and it was read as it was submitted to Chairman Gocken and is presented on the Agenda. A roll call vote is called:

YES: Rice, Saunders, Scholl, Zuehl, Bauer, Brooks, Colbert, Conn, Horner, Huntley, Johnson and Kenney

NO: Remhof, Spencer, Swanson, Colson, Daws, Gouker, Hoekstra, Hopkins and Gocken

ABSENT: Nye, Stahl and Clayton

October 19, 2004

The motion carries on a roll call vote.

Fred Horner agrees with what has been said here tonight about the County Board showing support for the employees. He would like to look into taking a cut in pay for the County Board and see if it can be done. Saunders says the only thing she can think of is to not turn in committee report cards. The Law states they have set the salaries and have to be set within so many days before the election. County Clerk Huntley states that won't work even if you do not turn in the report cards because you will still get paid for the three meetings. Saunders states you will not get paid for any additional meetings. Chairman Gocken asks if this needs to be researched through Deb Ellis or what do we do? Bauer asks if the motion can be made so it is on the Agenda next month and have it researched by then? Pat Saunders make the motion to research the possibility of the County Board members not turn committee meeting report cards for the month and accept base pay only. Fred Horner seconds. Rice asks if this will apply to the Long Range Planning Meetings as well? It was decided the people that attend the Long Range Planning Meetings are paid out of Long Range funds. Colbert asks if they can rescind their mileage reimbursement as well? Remhof states for the record, his wife is a county employee and he wants to see the county employees receive a raise. If he cuts his salary, there is no way any raise she receives can go over the amount he receives. Remhof doesn't want anyone to say he used his position to make sure she received a raise. There is no amount of raise she can get that can cover his salary. After additional discussion, Saunders moves to rescind her motion and Horner seconds. Ellis will not be researching the motion since it has now been rescinded. Conn asks if this can be put on the Agenda for next month - so that if there is something to be decided by the board it can be handled next month. It was agreed to put this item on the Agenda under "Unfinished Business."

Motion to Adjourn

At 9:55 p.m., Jerry Daws moves to adjourn the October Ogle County Board Meeting until Tuesday, November 16, 2004, at 5:30 p.m. at the Courthouse in Oregon. Lyle Hopkins seconds and the motion carries on a voice vote.

Betty Gocken
Chairman Ogle County Board

Attest: Rebecca Huntley, Ogle County Clerk &
Ex-officio Clerk of the Ogle County Board