LEE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY
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August 25, 2010

Ed Rice	wedrice@rochelleins.com
John Kenney	jcdwkenney@comcast.net
Meggon McKinley	ocadmin@oglecounty.org
Ben Roe	broe@oglecounty.org

Ed, John, Meggon, and Ben,

I am sending this letter via email about our joint and mutual relationship with the Lee Ogle Transportation System. First and foremost and while I don't necessarily speak for all individual members of the Lee County Board, I want each of you to know that it is the absolute desire of the Lee County leadership that our respective counties work together in a mutual, cooperative approach to the Lee Ogle Transportation System.

I won't review the recent history except to say it appears that both counties agree that we would continue the LOTS program generally as is and not develop a mass transit district as was envisioned by certain members of LCCOA. Once the Ogle County Board had the good sense not to enact a resolution which would start the development of a mass transit district, the Lee County Board came to its senses and followed suit. Lee County then passed a resolution, a copy of which is attached to this letter. In essence, this resolution is our response to our realization that there was no oversight whatever between Lee County as the grantee of a number of grants and LCCOA which is currently the administrator of the grants. There is one grant in the process of being implemented which involves the passage of some 2.2 million dollars in federal money disbursed through the State to Lee County as the grantee for the construction of the "bus barn". I am not the "devil" in this issue, but I did realize that as grantee of these grants, the Lee County Board has an absolute obligation to oversee the proper administration of the grants. After all, we have signed a Grant Agreement which imposes duties and responsibilities and we just cannot pass the money on to the administrator and hope that the administrator does the right thing.

Thus, by the procedure implemented in the accompanying Resolution, we simply establish the chain of command. The LOTS folks as it applies to the Lee County interests will in essence be a committee reporting directly to the Executive Committee of the Lee County Board. The Executive Committee will then be the County Board's link in the chain of command.

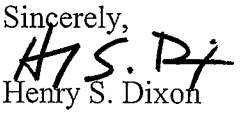
I want each of you to understand that we are very sensitive to Ogle County's joint and mutual position within the LOTS leadership. I want each of you addressees to understand where we are coming from and I hope you will agree with and accept our desire that both counties have appropriate oversight in whatever way each county deems most feasible.

I get terribly concerned with rumors and how rumors can interfere with reality. As an example, I decided to attend the most recent LOTS board meeting last week just because I like to see how it operates. Within 48 hours after the meeting, I was informed that one of the women who attended was passing the rumor that "Lee County was trying to take over ...." etc. I did leave out some of the specifics of the rumor just because they are so egregious that to repeat them would somehow add fuel.

I welcome your thoughts, comments and criticisms.

One final note. I have asked representatives of IDOT to work with Kathy Lalley who is the Lee County Board's designated overseer of the Lee County grants. They have been very gracious and cooperative and are going to spend some time educating Kathy as to how to be a good, effective overseer. Should you want to designate some person as an overseer for the Ogle County -IDOT related grants, I know you will find those folks will be more than happy to work with your overseer as well as with Kathy Lalley.

Sincerely,



Henry S. Dixon

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NO ACTION TAKEN - LAY OVER UNTIL JULY COUNTY BOARD MEETING

LEE COUNTY
FOR RECORDING PURPOSES

OGLE COUNTY
FOR RECORDING PURPOSES

RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE INCORPORATING
MOBILITY ACCESS LINKING SOLUTIONS (MALS) MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
A LOCAL MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
LEE COUNTY RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE NO. 05-10-007
OGLE COUNTY RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE NO. _____

Be it ordained and resolved by the Board of Commissioners of the Counties of Lee and Ogle that the Lee County and Ogle County Mass Transit District be and hereby is incorporated in accordance with the Local Mass Transit District Act 70 ILCS 3610 et seq as follows:

ARTICLE I. Name.

The name shall be Mobility Access Linking Solutions/(MALS) Mass Transit District.

ARTICLE II. Purpose.

The Mass Transit District shall have any and all authority conferred on Local Mass Transit Districts by the laws of the State of Illinois.

ARTICLE III. Board of Trustees.

A. The Board of Trustees of the Mass Transit District shall be composed of:

One Trustee to be appointed by the Chairperson of the Lee County Board with consent of the County Board.

One Trustee to be appointed by the Chairperson of the Ogle County Board with consent of the County Board.

One Trustee to be appointed by the corporate authorizes of any municipality within the Mass Transit District which had a population in excess of 5,000 people at the last published census.

NO ACTION TAKEN - LAY OVER UNTIL JULY COUNTY BOARD MEETING

One Trustee to be appointed by the Chairperson of each County with consent of the County Board annexed to the Mass Transit District.

B. The term of appointment shall be four (4) years with the exception of the initial terms which shall be staggered as follows:

Appointment	Initial Term
Lee County	4 years
Ogle County	3 years
City of Dixon	2 years
City of Rochelle	1 year

C. Voting. Each Trustee shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to the Board of Trustees.

D. Resignation. Any Trustee may resign by filing a written resignation with Secretary of the Mass Transit District whereupon the appointing authority will make another appointment to fill the unexpired term.

E. Manner of Acting. – The act of a majority of the Trustees present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Mass Transit District.

F. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the Trustees duly appointed.

G. Powers. The Board of Trustees may adopt such By-Laws and establish such rules and regulations and take such other actions as may be necessary to achieve the purpose for which the Mass Transit District is formed.

ARTICLE IV. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall be effective when adopted by an official vote of the Lee County Board and the Ogle County Board and shall have an effective date which shall be the date the last of said County Boards adopt this ordinance.

LEE COUNTY

PASSED THIS 18 DAY OF May, 2010.

AYES: 24

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: 4

APPROVED THIS 18 DAY OF May, 2010.

NO ACTION TAKEN - LAY OVER UNTIL JULY COUNTY BOARD MEETING

ATTEST: Lee County Board of Commissioners

Nancy Nelson
County Clerk

By: Jam Scott
Chairman

OGLE COUNTY

PASSED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2010.

AYES: _____

NAYES: _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2010.

ATTEST: Ogle County Board of Commissioners

_____
County Clerk

By: _____
Chairman

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