

**EEHW COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 19, 2012
5:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Tim Dudley
Kevin Greenfield
Phil Hogan
Joe McGlaughlin
Kevin Meachum
Gary Minich
Mark Wicklund
David Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT

Don Westerman

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Laurie Rasmus, Env. Mgt.
Deb Garrett, Env. Mgt.
Kris Horton, Animal Control
Kathie Powless, VAC
Pat McDaniel, Historical Museum
Doug Harlan, U of I Extension Office
Julie Aubert, Health Department
Sheree Zalanka, Health Department
Jennifer Hoffman, P&Z
Linda Koger, County Board Office

This meeting was called to order by Chair Dudley at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of prior meeting made by Gary Minich, seconded by Phil Hogan, and motion carried 8-0.

CLAIMS

Motion to approve the claims made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by Gary Minich, and motion carried 8-0.

ZONING

Resolution Regarding Case R-01-07-12, A Petition For Rezoning Submitted By Bradley Morr
Jennifer Hoffman distributed copies of resolution, she had a small map, but did not have a big map because the copier was out of ink. Petition is for rezoning 4 acres of property from RE-5 Single Family Estate to RMH-5 Single Family Estate District to move manufactured home onto the property. It is located on 9613 Cabin Road in Oakley Township, Zoning Board of Appeals voted 5-0 at the public meeting on July 11, 2012 in favor of recommending approval. Kevin Meachum asked if the township officials are okay with this; Jennifer replied yes, Oakley Township is okay with the rezoning of it. Mark Wicklund asked about neighbors; Jennifer replied there were no objectors present. David Williams asked why RE-5 will not allow him to do this; Jennifer replied RMH-5 is manufactured homes only, he is purchasing a manufactured home from an individual, a newer home, and is going to move it on his property.

Motion to approve made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by David Williams, and motion carried 8-0.

REPORTS

Health Department

Julie Aubert distributed copies of four resolutions.

Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations – Senior Health Ins. Program

They added in a couple more grants, these grants are small and come periodically, and they had to clean up some of the account codes. Revenue is less than the expenses because they received the revenue in FY11, some of it. Motion to approve made by David Williams, seconded by Kevin Greenfield, and motion carried 8-0.

Resolution Approving Reduction in Appropriations for Targeted Intensive Prenatal Due to Reduction in Revenue from State of IL

Julie said they got notice on June 20 that they were no longer going to have this program of 11 years effective June 30, it employed three people, and was a very intensive program providing for pregnant Moms at risk of having poorer birth outcomes. They had to lay two nurses off, she retained one of the nurses because as the program has gone away the clients are still there, they placed the new girl in Family Case Management Program, and they will receive 50% back on her salary from Medicaid match. For clarification, Gary Minich asked if she said they are going to try and provide these services even though the state is not funding. Julie replied Family Case Management provides much less intensive services than this program, no they will not be able to provide the level of service, but will meet as much as they possibly can. Mark Wicklund asked the number of clients they had. Julie said 120, they are working with the state on a new grant called Strong Start, it is similar to this program, the state cut programs but then has them go out to start new, and the two nurses who left were discussed.

In response to a question from Gary Minich regarding alternatives for the 120 people, Julie said for this type of service they were the only one in town, the cases will be put in the Family Case Management Program where they have a tiered level of service depending upon their risk, these folks will be at the highest risk level but it will not be as intensive as what they had before, and this is what happened last year with Teen Parenting Services. She does foresee monies coming back but doesn't know their plan yet. Motion to approve made by Phil Hogan, seconded by Kevin Greenfield, and motion carried 8-0.

Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY12 Health Fund Budget for Teen Pregnancy Prevention

Julie said they were invited to apply for this program, they received \$287,000 for Teen Pregnancy Prevention versus the \$60,000 that Webster Cantrell Hall was receiving to run a similar program, and they are working with Webster Cantrell Hall and the Community Foundation to implement this program. They will have evidence based curriculums going into the schools and will be teaching about prevention. Motion to approve made by Kevin Greenfield, seconded by David Williams, and motion carried 8-0.

Resolution Approving Change in Appropriations – Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program and Community Development Enhancement

Julie said this was a new federal grant through the state, it is collaborating all the home visitor programs dealing with children, when they got the program they did not get the correct information on how the accounts and reporting should be set up, so this is just a clean up separating this into two separate pots due to reporting. Gary Minich said so moved, seconded by David Williams, and motion carried 8-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Shirley Stanley, Animal Shelter Foundation President, went over year to date financial figures for the money that has gone to shelter programs from the Foundation; adoption expenses \$7400, medical expenses foster animals \$1700, flea treatment \$1800, feline leukemia testing \$639, other medical expenses \$2600, Home for the Holidays program \$255, adoption coordinator reimbursement to county \$6500, cleaning cat cages at PetSmart \$3500, miscellaneous expense (spay & neuter programs \$6400) (trap/release \$6300), boarding animals for people undergoing cancer treatment \$1200. They have spent a total of approximately \$38,000 - \$39,000 year to date, anticipate that being exactly duplicated the rest of this year, so the Foundation has contributed approximately \$78,000 - \$80,000 back to these programs.

Gary Minich asked where the Foundation gets its revenue. Shirley replied 100% from donations and fund raisers which she discussed and gave examples of, people are very generous, and a lot of it has to do with the community so badly wanting a replacement shelter; when the shelter opened in April of 2006, 3400 people came to the grand opening; people are very supportive, love their animals, say they would do anything for their own animals, and feel a great deal of compassion for animals that don't have owners and need advocacy. Gary Minich asked if their fund is healthy. Shirley replied yes, they are very committed that they will not spend in a fiscal year what they don't bring in, they try to do things with zero overhead, they have no employees taking compensation since it is 100% volunteers buying their own lunches and using their own cars, and she distributed brochures on a new fundraiser call Tour de Paws being done with several community partners including the Sheriff's department.

Kevin Greenfield asked about the new fencing out there. Shirley replied they have done the new fencing in hunks, have probably put in around \$70,000 on that, initial plans for the building called for no outside fencing, they did perimeter fence initially, there was no way for dogs held by Animal Control to go outside since fencing in place was for adoptable dogs, fencing was added for Animal Control dogs, recently they partitioned that big fenced area for adoptable dogs so more dogs could go out, recently they put some umbrellas out and have shade trees in the back, and these are all donations so 100% of the fencing and people donated money specifically for the fencing; General Fence worked with them, and gave them the best price they could on it. Committee thanked her for all they do.

NEW BUSINESS – FY13 PROPOSED BUDGETS

Animal Control

Kris Horton distributed copies of their budget, last year they deleted several line items, and moved them into the Adoption line because of all the specials they had; this year they are changing 4330 Impound Fees to Return to Owner, and this will combine 4330, 4115 Boarding, 4340 Warden Fee, 4345 Offense, 4346 Avid for reclaims, 4511 Rabies Shots on reclaims, and 4513 Rabies Observations. They now allow payment arrangements on reclaims to encourage people to come and get their animals, it became time consuming to break up \$5 and \$10 payments into \$35 Warden fee, \$20 this, so they have started going straight to making it into Return to Owner to receipt in their computer system and get it correct. Allowing payment arrangements has increased slightly their return to owners but in this economy those are still down. Line 4514 their computer was combining return to owner and owner surrender fees under the same number, that number on here is not exactly correct, it has been fixed, so from now on those two will show up as separate. Line 4517 Animal Care Fee, that was combined into Adoptions last year but it was still the same amount of money kept in it, this line is now used for people who will owner surrender their animals, in 3 or 4 days they decide they want them back, if they have already processed the animal they do make them reimburse us for that, and they put that into the Animal Care line which is why it has been reduced to more accurately show what is going to be in that; adoption line was altered slightly. Line 4340 Warden Fee will now be used for pickup of owner surrender animals or pick up of deceased animals and will reflect more accurately what is going in that line. Line 4346 Avid Chip Fee is now what has not been moved to reclaim fees, that is projected to show what they are going to make in the Avid clinics held every year. Line 4511, they are looking into more rabies clinics, and for the rabies clinics they do when a vet from the shelter goes out, do it when the county does theirs. Line 4215 City Contract reflects the increase that they just started billing for, the actual figure will not be available until August when they can adjust the CPI, but that will not go any lower.

Expenditures, the salaries were raised by contract 2.5%, but the whole line has gone down since animal control officers 4340, they lost two with time in this year and they hired new so that brings that down; dispatcher went from 5 days a week to 4 days a week since she is semi-retiring; 5305 Lt. Scheibly has less seniority than Lt. Hotwick did so that is reflecting what his salary is versus Lt. Hotwick, and that is also reflected in holiday pay. Line 7121 Radio Fees was raised last year since expecting increase from City of Decatur for radio fees, that did not happen, isn't projected to happen this year, so they lowered back down. Line 7195 Training, they lowered it since they are going more with local training which was explained. Line 7315 is service charge, she checked with the auditor and treasurer, and they are not projecting we are going to be charged that again next year so it was taken out.

Chair Dudley commented they are under last year's budget by almost \$11,000, and Kris said yes. Motion to forward this budget on to Finance made by Kevin Meachum, and seconded by David Williams.

Kevin Greenfield asked what would happen if the Foundation would pull their funding. Kris said the next part she was going to discuss will answer some of that; she put on the back Kennel Statistics Report which is the same time period this year and last year.

Intakes are down with a lot of that attributable to feral cat programs, spay and neuter programs the Foundation does, food they pick up and take to Catholic Charities allowing more animals to stay in their homes, they put up more signage, have done a better letting public know that they are not a no-kill shelter including it on all surrender forms, they have made it better known to use the shelter as the very last resort for owner surrender of animals, and they have helped people to be able to take care of their animals in home. Euthanasia requests are up especially with the economy which was discussed, and that line is up. Owner surrender line is down because of working with the Foundation and others in helping people keep their animals in their homes. Adoptions are up attributed to specials they have had, and to the grants Michelle was able to get for free adoptions. Euthanasia is down attributed to feral cat trap/release program which was explained. Relocating of animals is up due to barn cat program. Bad part is return to owners are still down even with them allowing payments, and examples were discussed.

Kevin Greenfield commented 3 out of 4 don't make it out, and Kris agreed. Kevin Greenfield asked if it is fair to say we are pretty dependent on the Foundation. Kris said we are, Animal Control brings in 3000 – 4000 animals every year most from the City of Decatur, and you have seen numbers on adoptions. Chair Dudley questioned line 5707 Overtime, and asked if they are expecting more. Kris replied the \$2000 increase goes with the salary increases because overtime will be more. Mark Wicklund questioned line 7330 Drug Testing, and Kris said they drug test employees randomly; after questions about why they do that by committee members, Kris really didn't know why. Gary Minich stated we need to find out why we are doing it, and if it is a state requirement that is one thing. Kris said Lt. Hotwick looked into it, recommended stopping it a year or so ago, and got shot down but she doesn't know by who. Chair Dudley called for a vote on the motion made previously on this budget, and motion carried 8-0.

Environmental Management

Deb Garrett asked if everyone had her packet that was put in boxes last week, committee said no, and Laurie Rasmus distributed copies. The first three pages are job descriptions which were required, and there is no change in that as well as an organizational chart. Deb first started with her handouts included with her budget and suggested that since this is a political year to use them for reference since it is things the county provides to constituents.

She discussed the Application for Refuse Hauling License, Laurie spent a lot of time revising it, they are trying to collect more information out of all the haulers to get a sense of where exactly they are and what they are charging, Refuse Ordinance requires that but it had never been really collected effectively, it is a part of what she wants to do with in talking to various villages about implementing curbside recycling for those who don't have it in order to make the recycling program more sustainable for us; last page notice it is \$50 per vehicle which is reflected in one of her revenue lines, 4900. Mark Wicklund asked if everyone had responded, and Deb replied not everyone but they will keep hounding them.

Mark Wicklund asked about the new Area Disposal contract. Chair Dudley asked to hold that until we are done, and Kevin Meachum added we are here to hear about her budget.

Deb then read the handouts included with her budget including Enforcement Program State FY12, Managing Used & Waste Tires, Rain Barrel Sales Program, Sustainable Saturday Flyer and number of pounds of electronics taken in, Recycling Drop Off Recycling Trailer Program, Spring Clean-Up Grants, Event Recycling, picture of Christmas Lights Recycling Drive. Deb said her office contributes about \$2000 - \$2500 a year to supplement the bid for the paper for the county to make sure all use recycled paper.

Deb said her budget is different this year, you have to look at two budgets to understand it; at the top is listed General Fund, Host Fee was returned somewhat to her office, is still under the General Fund title but see line 4910 \$250,000 that Amy Stockwell and Deb approximated the amount of money that will come in on Host Fee in a year's time, it could be less in the end, could be more, and it is a guess. Looking at her 2012 086 Fund, you can compare what is happening. Deb commented one thing she needed to do this year since interested in her expenditures being more realistic or more ethical, she took 15% out of enforcement fund for Laurie's salary, so under Executive Director which she renamed to Deputy Director (Laurie's title), she took \$6000 out of enforcement personnel fund to put into this because she does at least 15% of Deb's office work as opposed to just enforcement, really it is more, but she is starting with 15% this year.

In 5430, she deleted that since that was Clerk V position in P/Z and if you heard Jay Dunn's budget, he took over that funding; she had been partially funding that position but is going to move forward with personnel in a different way. She increased line 5695 Extra Help to \$18,000 as she looks to Farm Progress again since she will have to hire extra help; last year she put so many hours in there, and it will probably go through all that. Next page starts with 7000 lines Maintenance Equipment, originally she had no changes in any of those lines, she kept her budget the same as last year, last year she reduced her budget by \$50,000 to stay sustainable with believed host fees, she has it around that amount, and the only two things she changed is 7716 and 7717, took \$5000 off one and put \$5000 on other one. David Williams asked if that is the account for the possibility of tire funds not being there. Deb replied yes, they never know, it can run from \$6000 to \$10,000 in a year, so she has to be prepared for that if we have to pay for it again; Laurie will be presenting the enforcement part of this.

Chair Dudley commented this is confusing, asked if she has any raises in here, and if so where they are at. Deb replied yes, it is hard to see Laurie's because she took 15% out of enforcement grant, but Laurie and Deb both have a 5% raise in here. Mark Wicklund commented he is lost on her sheets since there is nothing for comparison. Deb replied they have to go to the General Fund one, go to this one and overlap it with the 086 one which is the budget from 2012, and that way you can see what's going on. Chair Dudley asked overlap it with what, and Deb replied one with the other.

Kevin Meachum asked if there is a particular reason for the 5% raises, and how many employees does Deb have counting herself. Deb replied the two people who are getting 5% raises are Laurie Rasmus and Deb Garrett; she has two part time recycling people, one is Gary who drives the recycling trailer, one is other person who comes in periodically to do paint, and Paula Cross is the Recycling Specialist but now works part time in SOFA.

Kevin Meachum commented everything he has seen so far has been around 2% - 2.5%, Deb is asking for 5%, so she may be prepared to have to remove that when it comes to Finance. Deb replied her 5% will not be the dollar amount that other elected officials and department heads are making, so if Kevin would compare what her salary is to what their salary is. Kevin Meachum stated he has to look at the whole county, he cannot just look at Deb's department, and what he is looking at here is a red flag. Deb replied she hasn't increased any of her spending, has been diligent about cutting expenses being sustainable in her actions, and being very efficient in her office. Kevin Meachum stated he is questioning the 5% raises due to the fact that he looks at countywide employees' situations, they are not getting 5%, the county's biggest problem is we are not consistent in how raises are given, and this is a red flag. Deb stated she thinks looking at the percentage is not always the best way, she thinks looking at the dollar amount is more equal for comparison, and when you have some people making \$80,000 and some making \$57,000 that is a big difference. Kevin Meachum feels she is going to have trouble with her budget with those 5% raises in there.

Mark Wicklund commented he is still confused, and asked what is Deb and Laurie's actual salaries. Deb asked if he would like her to show him on the sheet, and Mark asked her to just tell him. Deb asked again if she could show him, and walked over to point it out on the sheet to Mark. Mark asked if there is a reason she did it that way. Deb replied she didn't do that this way, this was Amy Stockwell's system, she is not spending out of her fund balance anymore, will now will be spending out of host fees coming in, and that is the way Amy's accounting is going to print out. Deb added she is going to be managing three separate accounts this year instead of two.

Mark Wicklund commented if it is anything like this, he doesn't know how since this is just, of all the budgets he has gone through already this year, this is the one that is all over the place. Mark said he also understands that Deb does not make what other departments do, we also have elected officials with salaries that are frozen for increases this year, and he has to look at all departments as a whole in what they bring in and what their job duties are. Mark added at \$80,000, the sheriff's deputy is one thing out there putting his life on the line, and he agrees with Kevin Meachum that the 5% is high; we have gone through last night's, the highest one coming through there was 3%, one was divided up among employees and averaged out for the non-contractual ones which was still below 3%, but it was a fair increase for the non-contractual and even though he would like to have seen it be a little more, yes, but this is how the math equaled out. Mark said he feels Deb is going to have a serious problem pushing 5% raises through Finance and sitting on the Finance Committee, he personally has a problem with it.

For clarity since everyone is confused, Chair Dudley asked Deb to state her salary, and Deb replied \$57,000. Chair Dudley asked Deb if she got a raise last year and if so, how much. Deb replied yes, she believed it was 8%. Chair Dudley commented it was 9%, and Deb asked if that is a trick question. Chair Dudley replied he was letting her answer it. Mark Wicklund asked the actual salary for Laurie Rasmus, and Laurie replied \$38,157. With the salaries Mark Wicklund was talking about yesterday, they were right around that price range, they were under 3% raises, so he thinks 5% is high. Chair Dudley asked Laurie Rasmus what her raise was last year, and Laurie replied the same as Deb Garrett, 9%.

David Williams made a motion to send this on to Finance, he doesn't serve on Finance but knows it is a tough job, this department does an awesome job of representing the county, they work lots of hours and he doesn't know if they receive compensatory time off or overtime for that, they do things that are community service based, a lot of their jobs are weekend hours, time that we have with our families, we have hard decisions to make, but we should keep that in mind with the compensation those folks receive. Motion seconded by Phil Hogan.

Mark Wicklund asked to comment, he is not questioning what they do since they do a great job, he has told them this in the past, they do go above and beyond, they are underutilized but that is not by their fault, and it is no reflection on their jobs. Chair Dudley added he doesn't think anybody would take the position that it is anything to do with that. Kevin Meachum commented Macon County board members have a daunting task to oversee the budgets for the whole county, he still has a problem with the 5% raises, and this budget needs to take that 5% down to 3% to go to Finance; he made a motion to amend to make the salaries down to 3% before it goes to Finance, and seconded by Kevin Greenfield.

Chair Dudley called for a vote on the amended motion, David Williams said we did have a second on the original motion, and Phil Hogan said we did have a second on the original motion. Chair Dudley didn't think we had a second on the original motion, recording clerk did not hear the second, and Chair Dudley said he did not hear it either. David Williams said Mr. Hogan seconded the original motion. Gary Minich said Robert's Rules would say you vote on the amendment, and then go back to the original motion. Chair Dudley agreed, and called for a roll call vote on the amendment; Dudley aye, Greenfield aye, Hogan no, McGlaughlin no, Meachum aye, Minich no, Wicklund aye, Williams no. Chair Dudley said it is a tie vote, 4-4, so motion did not carry. Chair Dudley called for a roll call vote on the original motion to send it on to Finance, and Phil Hogan seconded the original motion again for the record; Dudley no, Greenfield no, Hogan aye, McGlaughlin aye, Meachum no, Minich aye, Wicklund aye, Williams aye, and motion carried 5-3.

Health Department

Julie Aubert distributed their proposed budget in binders last week, and she distributed extras to those who didn't have their binder with them. Included is their annual report, organizational chart with programming by division, and a list of all staff; they have about 104 employees. There are 58 job descriptions up to legal code as far as HR laws, and are all up to date. The next section has their Personnel Policies which they update annually every fall. Accomplishments for 2012 are included in the last section by division.

Regarding their budget, revenue will be decreasing by 5% from last year, expenses will be decreased by 16% overall, they have had a great expense with the roof near \$600,000 which they are still paying out on that; reason of the increase from the net revenue to expense, the huge increase, that is from building expense. Overhead expenses were at 17% overall, it was 16% last year, but because of the building expenses it affects everything else. They continually decrease expenses, this year they will decrease expenses by \$56,364, and next page is where decrease in expenses are going to be. Gary Minich asked why utilities are down by \$33,000.

Julie commented yes, direct energy co-op which they joined, they are seeing big savings, budgeting process was explained and with the co-op they are in that is what they anticipate saving, and she thinks they will be saving more next year because of the roof. Programming they have lost, she discussed tonight about Targeted Intensive Prenatal, and they also gave up Vision & Hearing state grant because they ended up getting \$200 a year and had to fill out tons of paperwork so can just do it on their own since more efficient, ADRC funding they don't have but they still have the federal designation of which there are only two in the state, and Diabetes Self Management Program which they will be doing.

Her budget includes a 3% increase for staff, they evaluate everyone every fall, they go through a self-evaluation, then an evaluation with their supervisor, sometimes home visits are monitored, then they are coded by an objective scoring sheet that puts them a percentage, and they attach that to percentage of raise they get; her overall budget is 3% total cap, but if someone is not doing well got 2%, then she can use those dollars towards someone else. It could be someone would get more if somebody got less, but it usually doesn't happen because she doesn't have bad employees since she gets rid of them.

Building repairs are ongoing, they are not completely done yet, couple issues going on, and she hopefully will have total completion at their August BOH meeting; drainage system now from guttering has to be completed which was phase two. There were three phases to the building improvements, roof, land work, 12 of 21 HVAC units are 20 years old, parking lot needs completely redone, they didn't put them in this budget since they feel they need to come back with resolutions when they get to the point of starting those projects. Health Fund balance in this is currently at 2.1, that is not correct, it is now at 1.7, and will be at 1.7 with the full payment; once they get completely paid on the roof, the fund balance will be 1.7. In FY11, they added about \$83,000 to the fund balance. First sheet there is a summary of all the programs, 23 programs, and these are Amy Stockwell's forms. Overall they have come in with a balanced budget, have decreased expenses by 16%, and continue to look for revenue that isn't attached to the state. Kevin Greenfield asked if her board okayed this budget, and Julie replied they did Tuesday night. Motion to approve this budget and present it to Finance made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by Gary Minich, and motion carried 8-0.

Julie discussed the farmers market in their lot per a question from Mark Wicklund. Joe McGlaughlin asked about personnel that has nothing to do with the budget, we had a couple employees performing work that required specific licensing from the state, she did not have that licensing, and how was it resolved in the case of the female. Julie replied she was found guilty, 3 – 4 misdemeanors, never to practice dentistry again, and they were both found guilty.

Historical Society

Pat McDaniel distributed copies of his budget, he is the only employee, has not used a part time employee since last year, and like most museums they cut down expenses. It includes his job description, he has been using more volunteers to fill in, and their accomplishments are shown on the attachment. Last year was a slow year for tourisms, and Springfield was down; information on the attachment was read. A new exhibit opening in August will be celebrating farming and agri-industries; he has been growing his own soybeans and corn, but did lose his corn crop.

His board gave him a raise in January, he hadn't had a raise in a couple years, so there will be nothing after that for a while. It raises his expenses about \$251 over last year, he may not even use the part timer but put in a small amount in there, but right now he hasn't used it and doesn't plan to since he has been filling in with volunteers.

In response to a question from Gary Minich, Pat said line 4810 refund payroll is Amy Stockwell's form and they only get so much from their tax levy and have to keep refunding, putting more money into the payroll account; the \$32,120 comes from their fund raising, tax deductible donations, etc. and is not tax money. Their overall budget is around \$105,000 this year. Chair Dudley asked the approved amount of raise for him by his board. Pat replied about \$3680, Chair Dudley said that computes to 9%, and Pat commented it was about 7% actually and he will check with Amy Stockwell. Also, he just celebrated his 7th year with the Museum in May. Kevin Meachum understands the levy for the Historical Society is \$33,000 coming in, and that is our obligation that we vote on. Pat replied right, it was passed in 1977. Joe McGlaughlin moved to send this to Finance, seconded by Gary Minich, and motion carried 8-0.

Mental Health Board

Chair Dudley spoke with Denny Crowley, they will be making a few changes over there, so he will present their budget next month.

Regional Office of Education

Chair Dudley said Matt Snyder could not be here, his budget has not changed one cent, committee can either vote to send it on tonight or we can look at it next month, but there is absolutely no changes. Since there are no changes, motion made by Kevin Meachum to approve it to go to Finance for their review, seconded by David Williams, and motion carried 8-0.

U of I Extension

Doug Harlan distributed copies of his information, they are not a county office but a state university office, and he worked with Amy to come up with a spreadsheet that gives something similar to what committee is used to seeing. The line committee needs to pay attention to is Macon County Property Tax line, \$387,074, and that is what they are asking for as their tax levy from the county this year. This will be the fourth year that he has asked for the same amount, and they have held the line not asking for any increases. Last year they were at approximately .0268 of their .05 tax levy, so right around half. The state of IL going down to where it says state sources for FY13, 75% match rate \$308,306, that is what they are estimating they will get from the state of IL as a match to what they raise locally, and the county tax levy is part of what they raise locally.

Committee can look at the rest of the budget line, he will answer any questions, but he is asking for approval of their \$387,074 tax levy with no increase for next year. David Williams said he would make that motion, seconded by Kevin Meachum, and motion carried 8-0.

Veterans Assistance

Kathie Powless distributed copies of her budget and a packet of information about what has been going on this year. With the compensation and pension claims that she filed, they have gotten back so far this year \$227,882, and that is money that comes back into Macon County that our veterans receive from the VA. Regarding transportation, they are working with the VA hospital and also Veterans Transportation Service out of Atlanta, GA, are trying to bring additional transportation to veterans to reach the outlying areas because they go Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; what they are trying to do with these guys is we will keep our schedule going our three days, but these guys will make up a route going five days a week; they will go to the veteran's house to pick them up, take them to Danville to their appointment, and bring them back home to their house.

They will also be able to carry oxygen which we can't carry now, will be wheelchair adaptable that we are not, so it is not really going to impact us because we will still catch the early guys that go over and if they are there all day, this guy will bring them back. They are going to be traveling starting out with Springfield and Decatur, we will be the first ones with it, and hopefully it will be in place by the end of the year. Joe McGlaughlin asked if that is a government agency. Kathie replied with the VA, everything is funded through them, our drivers will have uniforms, and Tuff pads will be put into the vans so if we have a rider, we can send it to that Tuff pad in the van and this way everything will go right to Danville; everything will go right into the Tuff pad, we can all see what is happening, Tuff pads will allow the VA to track that driver, how long it took to get from here to here or his whole route, that is not something they are pushing towards, but they want the shortest route.

In January they had one of their IL Association of County Veterans Assistance Commission meetings in Bloomington, and Kathie was elected as the 4th Division Vice President which is no more money, but more travel. Included in her packet is a map since she has about 40 counties along with information on what she will be doing; she will travel to the other counties making sure their VACs are set up the way they should be, and helping counties without a VAC get one started. They are in the works with Champaign, but so far they don't want to play by the rules. An update on the WWII Memorial was given, and goal now is to have it done the first weeks of September.

Regarding line 7350 of her budget Veterans Burial, Kevin Meachum asked the reason it was brought down. Kathie replied \$1000 is what she is supposed to have there by IAC VAC bylaws, last year she dipped into it for something else that she didn't have enough money for, but she will have to check that. Being respectful to our vets, Kevin Meachum asked if it doesn't have enough funding the reason she can't put additional funding in it. Kathie said in the 16 years she has been here, they have never used it but they have to have it in there, and many times if it is a homeless vet the VA will kick in paying up to \$900 for cremation and burial in Camp Butler. In response to Kevin Greenfield, Kathie feels confident \$1000 is enough.

Chair Dudley sees Travel line was budgeted \$1000 FY12 and \$42 used, it raised to \$1900 FY13, and he asked for an explanation. Kathie had travel so doesn't think that is correct. Chair Dudley was looking at the wrong line, actual is \$958 FY12, \$42 is what's left, but it is up in FY13 to \$1900. Kathie said because of the extra travel she will have to do as the Divisional Vice President.

Motion to pass budget on made by David Williams, seconded by Joe McGlaughlin, and motion carried 8-0.

NEXT MEETING

8-16-12

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mark Wicklund, seconded by Phil Hogan, motion carried 8-0, and meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Linda Koger
Macon County Board Office