

**PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MACON COUNTY BOARD**

SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

**Jay A. Dunn
Chairman**

**Stephen M. Bean
Clerk**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. with the Sheriff and Assistant State's Attorney, Randy Waks present.

The Roll Call showed all members present at the meeting with the exception of Mr. Baxter, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Little, and Mr. Oliver.

Mrs. Taylor led the members in prayer.

All led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RETIREMENT PLAQUE PRESENTATION:

Sheriff Schneider: Sheriff Schneider said this award is presented to Christopher L. Bendsen for recognition of 33 years of dedicated service in the Macon County Sheriff's Office from 1979 – 2012. The Sheriff said believe it or not Chris trained him. He said they are very proud of Chris because he was a dedicated employee for 33 years in that department, and that is something to be said. Chris was the type of person who was extremely intelligent when it came to the way he approached the job. He made great decisions. Sheriff Schneider said he was proud to call him his friend throughout the whole time he was there. He asked them to congratulate Chris Bendsen.

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 9, 2012 MEETING

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2012 meeting.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Minich, Smith, Taylor, Westerman, Wicklund, Wilkins, Williams, Zimmerman

Nays: (None)

AYES = 17

NAYS = 0

MOTION CARRIED.

There were no zoning or subdivisions presented at the meeting.

B. CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from Comcast regarding additions to the Comcast Channel Line-up

A letter from Ameren Transmission regarding notice of a public meeting on October 2, 2012 for the Illinois Rivers Project

A letter from Ameren Illinois regarding tree trimming that will be done in and around the Decatur area in the near future.

A letter from Ameren regarding upcoming vegetation management taking place in the community in the near future

A letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation regarding execution of subject agreement Section: 05-07161-00-BR, Project: BROS-0115(068), Job: C-97-036-12.

A letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation., regarding low bid submitted by Schmidt Construction Incorporated for Item No. 227, Contract No. 95680.

REPORTS

Sheriff's Report – August 2012

Coroner's Report – July 2012

Treasurer's Fund & Investment Report – August 2012

Tax Collector's Bank Report – August 2012

Auditor's Report – August 2012

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve the Correspondence and Reports and that they be placed on file by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

1. CLAIMS

MOTION

Mrs. Cox moved, seconded by Mr. Minich to approve the claims by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. APPOINTMENTS

2. Resolution G-3747-9-12 – Appointment to the Decatur Public Building Commission Board of Commissioners

Rick Bright, 27 Prairie Rose Ct., Mt. Zion, IL 62549
Term Expires: October 31, 2017

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Resolution G-3747-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

3. Resolution G-3748-9-12 – Appointment to the Argenta Sanitary District Board of Trustees

Tom Rambo, 113 E. Elm St., Argenta, IL 62501
Term Expires: 1st Monday, May 2015

MOTION

Mr. Dunn moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3748-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

4. Resolution G-3749-9-12 – Executing Deeds to convey property on which taxes were delinquent

MOTION

Mr. Meachum moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve the Consent Calendar by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

5. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3750-9-12 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the Circuit Court's budget for attorney's fees in certain appeals.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to approve Resolution G-3750-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3751-9-12 which is approving an increase in appropriations in the Sheriff's FY 12 budget.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3751-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

7. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3752-9-12 which is approving increase in appropriations in the Sheriff's FY12 budget.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3752-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

QUESTION:

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum asked if there is money in the budget for this, or is this additional to the budget.

Sheriff Schneider: Sheriff Schneider said it is additional to the budget.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum asked if there was a reason.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said it was over some contracts we just settled and some back pay.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Mr. Wicklund presented Resolution G-3753-9-12 which is approving increase in appropriations in FY12 Sheriff's budget for a motorcycle.

MOTION

Mr. Wicklund moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution G-3753-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

EEHW COMMITTEE

9. Mr. Dudley presented Resolution G-3754-9-12 which is approving Integrys Energy Services, Inc. to provide Aggregation Program Consultant Services to Macon County.

MOTION

Mr. Dudley moved, seconded by Mr. Greenfield to approve Resolution G-3754-9-12.

COMMENT:

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he would like Randy to go over some issues that have come up since the EEHW meeting.

Randy Waks: Mr. Waks said the first thing we really need to talk about is to remember there is a distinction between some of the services that are being offered that were actually argued at EEHW. The first service to be discussed is the consultant service. Most of the time the consultant service provides essentially two functions, one is pre-referendum education to the public about what electric aggregation is. We, as a county will stay out of that and will not get involved in the referendum, but we can hire a consultant that will help educate the public; the city of Decatur is doing exactly that. He said as a side issue, when the city of Decatur's consultant is doing their education, their newspaper ads will probably not just go to Decatur citizens but anybody that takes the paper. The ads on WAND and the newspaper, if there are any, will go to anybody that listens or watches those programs. There is a chance we are going to get some benefit in the county whether we have a consultant or not, but this is a decision for you. The second service that a consultant provides or can provide is the assistance in helping us with the bidding process to accept a supplier of electricity. It is complicated matter to do that, and it is nice to have a consultant that knows what they are doing to help us through that. So, the first potential job is consultant. The second job or contract that we wanted to talk about is the actual supplier themselves. We lost a little bit of track about the differences between the two at EEHW. So, we need to keep in mind that there is the consultant and the supplier. When picking a consultant it is his opinion that, that is professional services which is an exception to the bidding statute and we do not need to

bid that out. Many communities have bid that out, but it is not required in his opinion. The second position which is a supplier of electricity, in his opinion does require a bid; however that also is not clear. The statute that discusses electric aggregation is anything but clear on that issue. It just talks about the process of soliciting bids for electricity and other related services, "shall" be conducted in the following order. It says "shall". It then says corporate authorities or county board "may" solicit bids for electricity. Does that mean we don't have to solicit bids, but we can still get a contract? Mr. Waks said trying to read this together, to him it says the process for soliciting bids does not require soliciting bids, if you read the "may" to mean you don't have to solicit bids. It is not very clearly written. It is just a very, very poor draft. We have done some polling of other communities and talked to their corporate counsel for their cities and the State's Attorney's office and there is no agreement across the state. About 2/3rd's of the people he talked to said that you do need to bid, and about 1/3 of the attorneys say you don't have to bid; so there is no agreement. He also took a poll at the State's Attorney's office in Macon County and showed this statute to a number of the attorneys and it was running about 4 to 1 in favor of bidding, but again there is certainly no unanimous agreement even among the attorneys in the State's Attorney's office. He then took the liberty of calling the Attorney General's office, and of course everybody's got an opinion. Every lawyer will have an opinion and it is just another opinion. He asked the Attorney General, the head of the Opinions Bureau if she could give him very quickly, her opinion on whether we had to bid or not. A lot of times he will call her and if it is an easy question she will answer right over the telephone, informally, yes or no or this is what it means. She looked at it and spent about 15 minutes and called him back and told him it was not clear. She told him if he wanted to request a written opinion they would research it and give him an answer. Sometimes you will get an answer in a year, and sometimes you will get an answer in 3 years; and sometimes you will never get an answer. The point is she told him it was not clear to her and she was not going to give him an opinion over the telephone. It's not a clear issue. Mr. Waks' opinion is that you have to bid, but there are a lot of people that take the other side of that coin. He just wanted to be open and honest with that and let you know that his opinion is not the only opinion out there. He and Jay tried to come up with a list of options to try and make it clear to you what you can vote on. The resolution that you have before you was the resolution that was passed at EEHW that allows an agreement to be made with Integrys to provide pre-election education to educate the public and to assist in the bidding. That is an impossibility because Integrys really wants to get the contract. Integrys wouldn't want to be involved in the bidding if they are going to be one of the bidders; so that part of the resolution would have to be amended anyway. The second part is asking Integrys to do the pre-election education for us and Integrys does not wish to do that. Integrys wants the contract. If they get the contract they'll do the pre-referendum education for us, but essentially they want the entire contract. They are going to do a presentation shortly. They would like us to approve them for doing the pre-referendum education and give them at least a year's contract for the service. The other options that we've got include.... Mr. Waks said he would just go through what he and Jay originally came up with. The first one on the list he provided says, do not have a consultant. That is always an option. They could just use the overlap from the City of Decatur and hope that the people in the county get the word and vote with enough knowledge for what they want.

The second option on the list is to approve Integrys for doing the pre-referendum education and approve them as the electrical supplier; and this would be without a bid. You would be taking them for a minimum of 12 months. The third item that he and Jay came up with that is not on their list would be for Integrys to do the education only, and that is actually what the resolution is for. We would need to use a different company to assist in the bidding process. Integrys said that they did not want to do that so he and Jay scratched that off their list, and it is not on your list now. The fourth item that was on their list is now number three on your list, and that is to approve another entity, Stone River Group to do the pre-referendum education and the bidding assistance. They would help us through the bidding process. That is what they do. This would be if we choose to use the bidding process to select an electrical supplier. The fifth option they had, which is also off the table, involves a group called Nania. We wanted to use them for the pre-referendum education and bidding assistance, however he was notified this afternoon that they are the exclusive agent for Integrys, so they wouldn't be able to give us bidding assistance because they only assist Integrys. So, that option came off too. You are basically left with three options: one is doing nothing regarding a consultant and number two approve Integrys to do everything without the bid. The bid is for the electrical supply and we don't need it for the education. The third option would be to approve Stone River to actually be the consultant and help us with the education and bidding assistance; and it would go out for bid with the consultant. It is a little bit complicated and got a little bit muddled in the past. He just wanted them to understand what the three options are and they will have a presentation from Integrys and Stone River Group to tell you what they would like to do. Again, Integrys would be without a bid and they will do everything. They will do the education and then ultimately be the supplier. Stone River will do the education and help us with the bid and then it will go out to bid if the referendum passes in November to select an electric supplier.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked if we have any idea with the city's consultant as to what type of campaign they are going to launch for the city's aggregation.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said he does not but some of the speakers that are going to come up might know. He said a couple of questions they might want to ask are, what education services will be provided and how much will it cost and how will it be paid for? We will not pay for it directly. Typically it is paid for by the rate payers, the electric users. These are questions he thinks they would want to ask.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby asked if there is any economy of scale by combining what we do with the City of Decatur.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said he does not know the answer to that either. You might want to ask the speakers when they get up.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked if we know how many families in the county this will affect.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said it is about 14,000 homes.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked if we didn't use a consultant at all is there any way we could get the information to them.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said we could not. We need to stay neutral in the referendum.

Christine Pinckard: Ms. Pinckard said she was here representing Integrys Energy Services. She is a resident of Macon County and is represented by one or more of them on the board tonight. She is here with two of her colleagues, Dean Nicol who is here from Integrys Energy in Chicago and Kevin Ritter is here from Nania Energy in Chicago as well. She wanted to clarify a point that Mr. Waks made about why they don't separate the education services from the bidding. The reason for that is because we are the supplier. It wouldn't make sense for us to provide all of the education services and help prepare a bid for another supplier to come in and take. From a business perspective it just doesn't make sense for us to do that. As we go through this tonight she wanted you to remember the reason you are thinking about and making a decision about this particular topic tonight. The reason for that is because you are trying to save money for your constituents. That is the whole purpose of this. She wants you to also consider that she has worked very hard to come to you with this opportunity and to educate you, her hometown, about the opportunity that is here for people like her. She has been available to you to answer questions and so on and so forth. Ms. Pinckard wants you to understand communities that felt like they were going to get some benefit from that bleed over from other communities media attempts were only successful roughly 37% of the time. You shouldn't take for granted that whatever service is going to be offered and she believes it's Good Energy that has the contract for Decatur and then Stone River is representing Mt. Zion and Forsyth is going with Good Energy, you shouldn't assume that the bleed over will in fact pass the referendum for your constituents. Integrys Energy Services has a 100% success rate with the communities that we have worked with in passing this. It is the same kind of service we are talking about tonight where we provide the pre-referendum education services and then we do the minimum 12 month contract with you. The services we provide, and she could not speak for Good Energy, maybe Kevin or Dean might have some idea, but we provide a toll free 1-800 number for folks to call in if they have questions so they are not calling you and are not calling the county if they have questions. We have a customized website and launch page for folks to reference if they have any questions. We will be available to perform county meetings where residents can come in and ask questions in person, bring in their bills, things of that nature. We also do a mailer to explain aggregation and the benefits of it. You have to keep in mind that the mailer specifically goes out to your constituents, just like Decatur's mailer will only go out to the people they represent. Again, we shouldn't assume that because they live in this area that they will somehow get a mailer from Decatur. That is not going to happen. It is specific to your constituents. We provide support all of the way through the process so there is no drain on the resources here at the county which she knows are very, very difficult to come by. She wants them to keep in mind that there is a great level of transparency here. You can look at the Plug In Illinois website and see what the prices are that we have offered. You can see that the lowest price posted is one that we prepared. She wants you to consider that they have been in business in Illinois for 150 years. We are a very reputable company. We are very stellar when it comes to providing

aggregation services. We started in Ohio and now we are doing it here in Illinois. When you consider who you are going to select she wants you to consider specifically what kind of experience that person has. She was going to let Kevin talk to them a little bit about specifics with regard to cost.

Kevin Ritter: Mr. Ritter thanked the board for the opportunity to speak this evening. He will talk a little as Christine said about the costs. He said really there are some unnecessary costs, some costs that could be avoided by selecting a supplier especially before a referendum. The biggest cost, and Christine alluded to this, is really that if the referendum fails there are no savings for your residents and there are definitely significant savings at this time through an opt-out aggregation program. Specifically, with a broker model where a broker stands in between the county and the ultimate supplier that is chosen, there are consulting fees there. There is often what is called bid holding fees. He outlined that on the second page of the document. A bid holding fee is where a consultant will go out and get prices from suppliers like Integrys and others. Then on a random day, say Tuesday at noon these bids are due, and we are going to award the contract to that supplier the next day or two days later. There are two issues to look at with something like that. One is the days that are chosen are not always the best days. The electricity futures market is not a public market. It is not like natural gas where anyone can go and see what the prices are that day. Picking a day to bid is often times a shot in the dark. He would give them an example of that. There were 18 communities in 2011 that went out and went through a bid process. They were the first movers in this. Those communities' prices ranged at the time from about 19% savings versus the utility price, to 30% savings. They all went through the same process, but they picked different days to bid on by consultants that picked a day to bid on. That is the way it was done. It left a lot of money on the table for some communities and others fared better in that process. The bid holding price is something where suppliers like Integrys and others that will really ultimately serve your constituents. When all is said done we will be servicing the residents and our name will appear on the bill or whomever you choose. When you bid you have to hold those prices for a few days and there is a cost to do that. Imagine buying a stock like IBM, but he wants to buy it on Monday so he gets the best price today, but will decide if he wants to pick them on Monday. So, there is a cost to holding that price. By picking a supplier like Integrys directly, you can avoid that cost. You can benchmark like Christine said, all the prices are out there. You can set a goal for the county and we can work to meet that goal and give you transparency into the market. The other is the pre and post referendum work. We are soliciting residents one by one just like every supplier out there. He is sure people have gotten mailers at home. He has seen newspaper ads and those types of things. When we aggregate a community and partner with a community before the referendum all those costs are essentially stripped out and that allows us to fund the pre-referendum educational services so there is no cost. Whereas, a broker is not out there getting customers; they don't have a customer base. It is a cost that would ultimately be passed along to either the county or your residents. Most importantly, the economics of this, is really starting the program sooner rather than later. He wanted to share an example of this. There are two communities just a little bit north of here LaSalle and Ottawa. Ottawa is a little bit bigger of a town and they selected us for pre-referendum services and we had them flowing power in June.

They passed the referendum back in March. It was a similar situation. They started in June and their power is flowing. Their neighbor went through a different process. They went through a consultant process and they started about two months later. They left roughly about \$400,000 on the table that their residents could have had in savings over those two months. You can look at Plug In Illinois and see the prices. The community we are serving actually has a better price than the other community. Just to recap, the timing is important. The savings are there and we get the savings started sooner. You can avoid the consulting fees and we can help to insure that your constituents are informed so that the aggregation referendum is more likely to pass.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley wanted to clarify that if this does not pass by the voters, Integrys does not charge the county for the work they did.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said that is exactly right. He said that is a great question. The question was what happens if we put all the efforts into the mailers and telephone number and all the resources for the residents to educate them and the referendum fails. Then Integrys eats that cost.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin said he is somewhat at loose ends as to what relationship Mr. Ritter has with Integrys. He thought he heard it said earlier that Mr. Ritter could only represent the interest of Integrys. Mr. McGlaughlin asked if Mr. Ritter is from a separate corporate entity or is he a commissioned salesman.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said he works for Nania Energy and Nania Energy is an exclusive agent of Integrys Energy Service. Mr. Ritter said he is an exclusive agent of Integrys and he only represents Integrys. That was not always the case. Nania, a number of years ago was more of a broker model and they worked with a number of suppliers. What was concluded was that Integrys has superior service, a wide range of products, and competitive prices. So, we in a sense got behind Integrys and now we represent Integrys.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if Mr. Ritter is corporately attached to them or are they a separate company. What is the relationship?

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said Nania Energy is a separate company. It has been around for 11 years. We have about 20 employees. We work with customers in Illinois and the northeast market and we represent Integrys products and services.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked who compensates him.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said we are basically like a sales channel. So just like any other person selling something we have a sales margin.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if the sales margin is a percentage commission from Integrys.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said yes. Integrys has inside sales representatives and we are exclusive agent outside sales representatives.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if the effective cost goes up if Mr. Ritter is involved versus purchasing directly from Integrys.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said that is a good question whether it is more costly to have him standing up here as opposed to Dean Nicol. Mr. Ritter said no, absolutely not. Any sales agents, whether they work for Nania or directly for Integrys, all have similar compensation.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if the compensation is negotiated or set by statute.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said it is not set by statute.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if it varies throughout the industry.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said he could not speak for other agents or the entire consultant and exclusive agent community. He is sure there are variants.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked if he said how much this is going to cost.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said our approach is costless to the county. Again, all the education services before the referendum so the residents are informed, there is no cost.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said if you do pass the referendum, then there becomes a cost.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said we would have the contract. We require 12 months for the contract. We would give the county options as far as different time frames like 12 months, 18 months, 24 months, whatever is desired by the county. There is price transparency in the market. If we show you a price then you wouldn't be beholding to say you are going to have take this; you can benchmark against what other communities have done. We can refresh pricing. These are all things we have done with about 1/3 of the communities that we serve today.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks asked if it is fair to say that county government will not be paying any of your fees or Integrys' fees throughout the duration of the contract. Any income to be derived by Integrys or Nania will come from the people that pay the electric bills as a small portion of what they pay.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said that is correct, like any supplier.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if he understood Mr. Waks to say that we can't do business with Mr. Ritter anyway.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said they do not want to be considered as a consultant that will go out and look at different suppliers through a bidding process because they only work with Integrys. They did not want to be considered as a consultant.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked then why is he here.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said he represents Integrys and he solely represents Integrys. He said just to be frank, his paycheck comes from Nania, but we solely represent Integrys Energy Services Products.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin said, but we are not going to buy it from him.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said what he was referring to was the splitting up in effect of the pre-referendum services and the supply afterwards. We cannot split those two up. We can conduct the pre-referendum services with a 12 month contract for the supply.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked if she could sum up what she thought he had said. She said Integrys would have this contract. They would do the education and the electrical supply and everything else because it wouldn't be beneficial to them to educate and then not take the contract because that is what they are in business for. She said that Mr. Ritter, from Nania, is their consultant who works solely for them so he couldn't do this business of bringing in bids and things for other agencies because he works for them. If the referendum doesn't pass then there is no cost to anyone because Integrys takes that cost. However, if it does pass there will be a contract and there will be bids and people can see what it is and it is something we can do constantly and look at constantly for the good of the people.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said he agreed with everything she said, but the last point about the bids, we would require the contract and we are an actual supplier so we would supply the community. We would offer....

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked we as in Nania or we as in Integrys.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said we being he only represents Integrys. Integrys could offer pricing to price the county to supply the county's residents, but that would not be a bidding process where we would bring in other suppliers.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said then Integrys and Nania are one.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if it was correct that Mr. Ritter is a commissioned salesman.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said yes.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin said Integrys pays Nania and Nania pays Mr. Ritter.

Mr. Ritter: Mr. Ritter said that is correct.

Dean Nicol: Mr. Nicol introduced himself and said he is with Integrys and is an employee of the company. He wanted to quickly summarize what had been discussed here today. We want to provide educational services to your county and other communities so we can earn the right to serve those customers as an electrical supplier. We only get that right if the referendum passes, so we view that as a marketing cost. That is why we are willing to eat it if it doesn't pass. We have done this for 10 years in Ohio before Illinois opened up; so we have experience. 100% of the towns or county's we have worked with have passed the referendum that is why we are willing to take that risk. But, to be clear, we only earn profit if the referendum passes and we earn the right to serve the residents; and that is where our money is made. That price isn't any different. He does this all the time because he is the Director of Business Development for Aggregation for Integrys. Whether it is Kevin talking to towns or Deb Lucas who is an employee of the company, he joins them at meetings all the time to talk about our product, our pricing and our process. None of that changes whether the sales channel is Kevin or Deb Lucas, an employee of the company. When you get to the point where the referendum passes and you are arranging for a rate for the residents that cost goes to the residents and that is where Kevin talked about there being a lot of transparency. The price that we would provide to you that you are facilitating for the residents can be seen with every rate that has been negotiated by 220 other towns in Illinois on the Plug In Illinois. It is a website that the ICC provides. If you go out there right now you could see that Ipava, Logan County, Lincoln some Ameren towns that went together a group of about 6 or 7 different towns that procured the lowest rate in the state, 3.96 cents per kilowatt hour, and Integrys is the provider there. He wanted to mention that because the question came up earlier about whether there were any economies of scale or benefit to banning together with Decatur. The data will show you that there isn't necessarily a benefit there. What matters is that when you lock in, you know the market will change a little bit from day to day. As an example, Good Energy served 50 towns in March and locked in a price sometime during June. Those 50 towns with 200,000 customers represented there, negotiated a price of about 4.1 cent a kilowatt hour. This much smaller group with Logan County, Lincoln, Ipava, Table Grove and Atlanta locked into a rate that was 3.96. They are a much smaller group probably 1/10 the size but they got a better rate. What we believe is that the process matters. Get people enrolled as quickly as possible so they can get access to that savings as soon as they can. But, they don't have access unless it passes and that is something for the county to be aware of. There is a unique failure rate among counties. 65% of the counties that tried this in March failed. We think that has something to do with more geographically disperse rural population. So, you have to have a plan to make sure people are informed and know what they are voting on. We have had 100% success rate. We want to make sure that you have the opportunity to give those customers access to savings and that is why we want to partner with you upfront. But, we do that to earn a living and we do that by selling power to your residents.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said when we talk about saving customers money, he thinks he gets this, where we have authority is in the rural areas the unincorporated areas. The

villages and municipalities or the other incorporated areas we do not have authority over, so we are talking about the customers in the rural unincorporated areas. He also knows that not all customers in the rural, unincorporated areas are going to be eligible for this. He asked Mr. Nicol to talk a little bit about who will be and will not be eligible for that. Also, he had written down that it was stated that their services could potentially affect 14,000. He was curious where those figures came from.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said he was not sure where that information came from. He thinks Randy provided that number. To answer his question if there are 14,000 households in the unincorporated areas of the county, that is the universe if you will, but the universe that is impacted by this referendum are only the customers that are served by Ameren. If there are co-ops which he is sure there are, there will be some subset of that 14,000 that falls out. The process will screen that out. Ameren sends all of the information to the county and they do that confidentially. The counties provide suppliers, whether it's Integrys or somebody else with account numbers the information we need to enroll accounts. We don't get customer names or addresses so there is no follow up solicitations. That dataset will scrape out the customers that are served by co-ops. We would like to get an idea ahead of time of what that total number is going to look like. We don't know what that is today.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said there are 3 co-ops that he knows of here in Macon County. In addition to that, he asked if there are some customers who are being excluded from participation because of the amount of electricity they use.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said for commercial customers that is correct.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked if farmers are included as commercial customers.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said correct, if their usage exceeds 15,000 kilowatt hours a year then they are excluded from the aggregation.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked if that is via the Commerce Commission.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said that is correct and that rule changed fairly recently. The threshold was higher in the past. There was some debate about it so they lowered the threshold. Again, that information all comes out of the dataset that is provided by the utility to the county.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams asked if there will be some effort down the road if the Ameren service area is successful to attempt to aggregate the co-ops.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said he couldn't speak to that. He didn't believe it was possible but he would leave that alone.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he had stated that Ameren gives the county this information. Who do they give it to and who does the work? How much work does that involve with the county as far as relaying these numbers?

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said what the supplier will need you to do or whoever is appointed from within the county is to fill out a form that provides authorization for the utility company to release the data to you. That person forwards an e-mail to the supplier and then we start to sort through it at that point. Once the data is in hand we do all the work from that point. We provide a full set of services throughout the entire process to limit the time and effort of your staff.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn asked how much staff time he would estimate that it's going to be for the county.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said the things that have to be done are that you fill out a form to get the usage from the utility company. There are letters we are going to send out pre-referendum to residents that have to get reviewed and approved. So there is an oversight function that will require a little bit of time. He assumes that when we set up public hearings pre-referendum to do education somebody from the county or several people will want to be present there as well. So, there is some involvement.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams said he is unclear. He said a release is provided to Ameren and then it was stated that Ameren would e-mail or forward account information to the county. So there is going to be some manpower hours there. Do we then in turn forward it on to Integrys and we would basically just be like a pass through type of thing.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said that is exactly right. We need somebody to sign the form to get the data flowing and to get it to us. There is no learning curve to learn how to deal with that data or to price accounts or anything of that nature.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said you have in your packets in front of you a form agreement between Integrys that says the city of _____, but ours would say Macon County. This is the type of agreement we would be entering into if you did approve Integrys for doing the pre-referendum education and being the electrical supplier without a bid. The next speaker will be from Stone River Group. Also, you have in front of you a proposed agreement from them if they were providing the education and bidding assistance.

Don Frontone: Mr. Frontone said he appreciated the opportunity to come in. He said he is from Lincoln, Illinois. He has lived there for about 30 years now. He attends church here in Decatur. He has a lot of his business here in Decatur. He is what the state calls an agent/broker/consultant. He is licensed with the state and bonded. It is different than being exclusive to one provider or one electric company. He actually brokers with about 14 different companies. When he was asked to come what was described was that you were looking for a consultant to help through this process. He would describe basically what that would mean. Mr. Frontone said as far as experience, he does not have the experience like Integrys of 150 years. However, he has been a consultant for nearly all of

his 30 years in sales and the banking industry and now in the energy industry. He does broker with Integrys just to add a twist to things. If he did put a bid out, he would put it out to Integrys and he would assume they might accept that bid as well as other companies. His goal would be to get companies to compete for the county's business. So, instead of using one company we would use a number of companies in hopes that we would derive the lowest price for the benefit of those communities. The other thing that would need to happen is on education services, and if you flip the page of the handout, it says Stone River on the second page. He has a team of 5 people including himself. Being in the corporate sales arena for a long time, mailers that go out.... He asked if anyone had mailers they receive at home and glance at and throw right in the garbage. The success rate on mailers is about 3%, which is not very good. So, if we are going to educate through the mail it is an expensive proposition. Dynagraphics is a company here in town many of you know. A friend of his runs that. We just looked at Decatur and what it would cost and it was about a \$10,000 mailer just to do one mailer to hopefully educate the community. He thinks from the education process it needs to be multifaceted. He thinks that a mailer, while it is effective in getting out the word, he doesn't think it is ultimately effective. Mr. Frontone believes having educational forums can be much more effective. He thinks our team could work with the individual members of the board to find out what communities we could set up meetings at and do that educational process so that people could ask questions. We could go beyond that if we need to. We can set up a web page and 800 number to accommodate the community however you would like us to. As a consultant he is working with you, not telling you what to do, not providing you everything to do, but to work with you to find out what would best work for your community. Every community is different, so your county might be different than the next county. His goal as a consultant is just to represent you in that educational format in the beginning. If they don't vote for the referendum, they can always vote for it again. It is important to get that educational process in. Bloomington-Normal did not vote for it. Normal has it on the ballot again this time and they did nothing at all on the educational side so now they're doing a little more and getting out in the community. There are times when a community might vote it down, and while some of us as suppliers or brokers might think that is terrible, it may not be bad because the community has to come up to the sense that this is important for us and they need to understand that they're the voter. That is one area that he would say you are going to do your best to educate but you cannot promote this as the board. It would be on him and his team to go out and help educate in the individual communities. That would be one thing. The second part is after the vote. There is a Plan of Governance Document that needs to be put together and that document represents how you will set up your program. We have a template for that but there are individual pieces that might be specific to you, the way that you do the bid, the type of companies you want to do bids to. You may not pick a company solely on price; it might be on strength. Mr. Frontone wanted to say that Integrys is a very strong company and well represented. He wanted them to know they have a great company here and not to shy from them from that standpoint. Mr. Frontone said what he is offering is to come here strictly as an independent consultant to represent you and get you through the process. The bidding process to him is ultimately the most important because that is when you choose a rate. It was mentioned here how you choose the rate and there could be fees. He would put in

the bid process that if there are going to be any holding fees that he didn't want to include them in the bid. There are things you could do that could be negative that you could eliminate from the bidding process. When you do the bid, if you feel that the numbers as a board or whoever you want to represent as a group in the board to make that decision, if you don't like the number that's come up in that bidding process you don't have to do anything. After the referendum there is no time period where you have to hurry up and do anything. From a historic standpoint, in November and December and at the end of October actually, historically in that last 4 years rates have gone down. So, that is a good time to do the bidding process. During the summer months is perhaps not the best time because the loads are full and everybody is using electricity and the rates go up. You have picked a good time to put this on the referendum. It is just when we go to pick a supplier which is the sole outcome of this process which is to get you that rate, that to him is the most important part who you pick and the rate you achieve. Some of the low rates throughout the state, and you can see on the ICC website as they represented and talked about it Plug In Illinois, some of those low rates and bids were done at a good time when those rates were down. That gives you the opportunity to look and make sure when you are doing the bidding process watching what the rates are and bidding at the right time. Hopefully that is what he provides for you. If you looked at the packet he has worked with some large groups throughout the state. He represents a large number of accounts that are rather diverse, not just municipal aggregation. In that process what he does is put together bids. The town of Normal has him exclusively as their consultant to do their facilities and he does the bid process for them. Right now we have a long term contract at a low rate that he bid out a number of companies and we found the lowest bidder. As a consultant those are the services that he would offer for you. He would not charge. He is remunerated by the winning bidder. He is paid a commission just like if you chose insurance for the county a commission would be paid by the insurance company. He is paid by the winning bidder. You would have to expend nothing on your end and he would do the work for you and assist you in the bidding process. Hopefully he would make it diverse enough to where the companies bidding against each other would get you the lowest rate possible.

Mr. Minich: Mr. Minich asked what happens if the referendum fails. Will we have an amount then that we have to pay?

Mr. Frontone: Mr. Frontone said no.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mr. Wilkins asked what it means on page 3 of Exhibit A where it says, "The Stone River Group shall assist the County in providing information (content) to residential and small commercial retail customers within the County, but in no event shall The Stone River Group be required to bear the costs associated with dispensing such information. In addition The Stone River Group may provide the following services as reasonably requested by the County." She is trying to get an understanding of what "reasonably requested" means and then what, "but in no event."

Mr. Frontone: Mr. Frontone said if you wanted to do a mailer and you requested me to do that mailer and it is going to be \$15,000, then we would probably have that discussion

of, do we want to do that mailer or not. That would be at my discretion to say whether I was going to spend \$15,000 on a mailer. He would want to be sure that it was going to be good for the county and good for him to expend those dollars. If we wanted to expend some dollars, it would be a discussion we could have, but he was not saying he could come up with unlimited funds to do a bunch of projects and not put a price to them. Generally what he is going to do is provide the services he stated, a website and an 800 number and do the educational process which would be getting folks out to the meetings and leading those meetings. He won't charge for that. He will do that educational process.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins wondered if we asked for this education assistance or was this something that was said would be given to us. Did we go out seeking for that education assistance?

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said no.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins asked if she understood Integrys to say they would do this.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said if we decide not to do anything tonight, the people will vote on it and we won't spend any money and nobody will spend money on education. The voters will just vote it up or down. If they vote it down we don't have to worry about it. If they vote it up then at some point we have to get back involved with either a consultant or hiring a supplier direct.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mr. Wilkins said the benefit of doing it tonight would be we would have our consultant and we'd have our vendor already intact when the referendum passed if we say it passed. She asked if that is what the benefit is of doing it tonight because they can do all the education they want; they don't need us to approve the education. We don't have to buy a consultant for them to go out and train the community.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said the idea of doing it now is to get it on the November ballot.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said right and then to already be incorporated with a company Integrys. If we were going to hire a consultant wouldn't we just do it all with one group instead of going.... She asked what the chairman's thoughts are on that.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said it depends on which way you want to go. The Building Commission has a contract with Nania and has Integrys. They have used them for a little more than 2 years. He talked Jerry about it and he is well pleased with them. Mr. Dunn said in his mind he always thought Nania was the consultant. He just found out today that....

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby asked if the vote was voted down would the public have another chance to vote and how long would that be.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said they could put it on as soon as the April election.

Mr. Ashby: Mr. Ashby said so if the public voted it down the first time we could bring it up again.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said in April of next year.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn asked if there is any extra cost to that.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said it would be a lot cheaper than what it is going to be for this election because it created a lot more ballot styles because you have all of these pockets. For example, you have to create two ballot styles for Pleasant View Township because the people of actual Blue Mound are not going to vote for it. It is the same thing in Harristown, Niantic, and Long Creek never did get us a question or Argenta-Oreana. So there are ballot styles for those townships. Mt. Zion, Decatur and Forsyth will be the only municipalities. Macon doesn't have it on. So for example, Patty will vote for it out in the county but someone like Tom who lives in the city will not be able to vote on this.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield asked if there aren't a lot more people who vote in a presidential election versus a township election.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said it is already going to be on the November ballot.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said it is already on the ballot.

Mrs. Wilkins: Mrs. Wilkins said it would be more money if we had to put it on the ballot again in April.

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said the ballots are made up for municipalities and everything in the April election because that is where we have to create ballot styles and do this differently. Normally in the November General Election you don't have local questions on it, so it created more ballot styles this time.

Mr. Frontone: Mr. Frontone said the only other thing he would say is that he is just a consultant. He could come through and bid a number of different companies including Homefield, Integrys, Mid-American, and a whole list. There is about 7 or 8 companies. Then whoever the winning bidder would be is who you could choose. If you wanted a consultant to help you through that process he would be happy to assist the county. If you wanted to go direct, Integrys is a good company as well.

Mr. Westerman: Mr. Westerman asked what the chances are of a non-educated electorate passing this referendum, if we did nothing. Is there any information out there to tell us if there is no education....

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said that is not anything he could answer, but he thought it had been stated earlier that there is a 60 something percent chance of not passing in the county without the education. He asked if that was correct.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said for counties, 65% of them did not pass it without the education.

Mr. Westerman: Mr. Westerman asked where they derived that from. He didn't know if that was that from this company or if....

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said that is statewide

Mr. Bean: Mr. Bean said it was statewide. Bloomington didn't do any education and it lost 60-40.

Mr. Nicol: Mr. Nicol said McHenry County, Dekalb County, Cook County all came without any pre-aggregation effort pre-referendum....

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he would like to have kind of a straw vote on option 1, 2 or 3 because we are going to need an amendment to this resolution the way it was passed through EEHW. He asked for a show of hands for each option and the second option of approving Integrys was the option the board members wanted to go with. He said we have a motion on the floor but it is going to have to be amended because in the motion it calls Integrys a consultant which they are not. It says they would give us assistance with bids which they are not. He is not sure about the technical advice regarding the program; he imagined they are going to give us that. In the last whereas it has got the word consulting again so there is going to have to be a little work on the resolution as it is.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mr. Minich moved, seconded by Mr. Greenfield to amend Resolution G-3754-9-12 by striking the second whereas. To obtain the services strike the words "of a consultant" and continue with for the education of the public regarding electrical aggregation and put a period there. He said you might have to put in a sentence regarding if it passes we would be signing a contract with them.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said that would probably fix the third whereas but he would like Randy to review it as we do it. Mr. Dunn asked if Mr. Minich was changing the rest of resolution because there were a couple more paragraphs that needed to be fixed before you vote on this. He asked if Mr. Greenfield wanted to take his second to the amendment back so we could correct the rest of the resolution.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield pulled his second to the amendment of G-3754-9-12.

Mr. Minich: Mr. Minich said they could amend the paragraph at Whereas, the Macon County Board desires to obtain the services of Integrys to provide for the education of the public regarding electrical aggregation.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said then you need to drop down to the next paragraph because it has language about providing consulting services which they are not going to do.

Mr. Minich: Mr. Minich said it could state ...to recommend the approval of Integrys Energy Services Inc. to the full County Board to provide electrical services.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin said it should be educational services.

Mr. Minich: Mr. Minich said we had education in the thing above. He said what we are trying to get in there now is something about their 12 month contract.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said no. On the 12 month contract this is if this passes in November and we agree to the bid that they bring in. We do not have to agree to their bid at this time for electrical services. He thinks the resolution should read, educational services depending the outcome of the November ballot.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said in the Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved paragraph he wasn't sure if we were ok there or not.

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin said no. They need to insert "educational services" in the place of consulting services.

Mr. Greenfield: Mr. Greenfield said that maybe Mr. Waks could write this and we could finish with the rest of the meeting.

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said after all the editorial corrections are made on this, he would appreciate if Randy Waks would read the entire resolution to the board to make sure it is stated the way we feel it needs to be stated at this time. He wanted to make it very clear that we are all voting on the right issue and make sure everybody is clear on where we are going with this.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn asked if the board members were ok with holding this until the end of the meeting while they work on the amendment. The board agreed to hold the resolution while they work on it and come back to it later.

OPERATIONS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum said he had no report at this time. He did want to inform the committee that we have a couple of important issues facing us at Monday's meeting so please be ready to have a long meeting on that.

The Legislative Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Finance Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Negotiations Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

10. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1819-9-12 which is appropriating funds for construction expenses on the Country Club Road (CH 26) Reconstruction Project, Section 08-00223-00-PV.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Wicklund to approve Resolution H-1819-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

11. Mr. Smith presented Resolution H-1820-9-12 which is granting permission to dispose of surplus equipment, a 2001 – 1500 Dodge Ram truck.

MOTION

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Cox to approve Resolution H-1820-9-12 by prior roll call vote.

There were no questions or comments from the board floor.

MOTION CARRIED.

The Executive Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Siting, Rules & Ordinance Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

The Building Sub-Committee had nothing to submit at the meeting.

CITIZENS' REMARKS:

John Phillips: Mr. Phillips lives at 80 Allen Bend Drive. He thinks he knows all of you. He thinks he has talked to all of you over various periods of time. He hopes that will give him just a little credibility. He is also very aware that this has been a tedious evening and you are working very hard at a difficult project. So, listening to him may or may not be the thing you wanted to do next. But, if you would tolerate it, there are a few things he wants to talk to you about. He thinks you know his opinion about this body, he views it

to be the most effective political body that he knows of whether that be federal, state or local. The way you work together and the way you accomplish things is exceptional. He is your fan for whatever that is worth. He praises this body anywhere they will let him go and talk about it including a radio program where we talk from time to time. However, he didn't come up here to praise you again; he has done that before. He came here with a complaint and a concern. The issue from his point of view, although he thinks it may be broader, is small business property appraisal within the county and specifically in his case within Decatur Township. He wanted to present some facts and would be glad to take any disputes or other opinions that people have. The way that system is supposed to work in his understanding is the combination of the township appraiser, Mr. Greanias and the township board are supposed to do on a regular basis, appraisals of all these properties and revise them as needed and provide that information to the county appraiser who then has the opportunity to look at them, approve them, change them or do whatever is necessary based on something they receive. That is where it should start. That process at this point is a total failure. It has been in his opinion and from everything he can see a failure for 25 years. There is no process by which up to date, current, well done, effective appraisals are done throughout the county, but specifically in Decatur Township. That puts that burden then on the county. So, not having that information the county is then required to end up with appraisals and so the county appraiser ends up with the task of creating those appraisals with whatever skills and ability that person has. He had a good long conversation with your appraiser this afternoon, a nice enough lady and we agreed to disagree on some things, but basically an intelligent conversation between two reasonable people. He needs to give them some facts about his particular case and the reason it causes him to come up here and talk to you. On the 1st of November of 2006 he purchased a small business a gas station at the corner of Main and Oakland in Decatur Township, in the city, in the county, all those things. He wanted to give them very specific numbers and he has a contract that he can show anybody and whatever. He paid specifically \$360,000 for that property and the business. In the immediate next year 2007, he spent \$86,000 to add 900 square feet to that property to allow it to do more things than it had done before. So, he has invested \$446,000 in that particular property. When he bought the property and until and including through 2010 that property was appraised at a market value of \$275,000, probably too low, at least too low relative to what he paid for it. At any rate that was its appraisal. Its property taxes were \$8,000 per year. In 2011, the county appraiser having had no input from the township went through and reappraised all 22 gas stations in Decatur Township, the least of which was increased in its value by 100%. In his particular case, it was increased to \$827,000 which raised the taxes from what was originally \$8,000 to \$25,000 in a 1 year jump. He thought that was a little interesting, unreasonable, whatever words you would like to say in the privacy of your own home and he began to question the process. That's how he began to learn about the process and who was supposed to do it first and all of that kind of stuff. The fact remains that we did a major thing to 22 small business employers in your county based on county assessor's appraisal believing that she had comparables and things that she was looking at that made sense, but that system is basically flawed. It only allows for public information and you'll find that 70% plus of this type of business are sold on contract for deed so that information is not available. He said it could be because any of us would have easily and gladly provided it so that they could deal with real facts. But,

they took the public ones and used those in saying that was their formula and that's what was applied. He has talked to all 22 owners. There are actually about 18 of them because several have more than 1. He could have had them all lined up over here and we could have yelled and screamed and done all the things we wanted to do but that is not him, and that is not what he is trying to do. He does have one young man who is here. His last name is Patel and he owns the station at the corner of Eldorado and Monroe. He came because he is interested and has been following Mr. Phillips through this process that we have gone through from the very beginning. If anyone here thinks that in the last 5 years the value of commercial property within the inner city of Decatur has increased in the last 5 years he has some bridges and other things he would like sell you. He just thinks it is an unreasonable thing that anybody would view that.... That is part of his problem. He doesn't think logic applies. He thinks we are dealing with mathematical formulas that don't have logic standing behind them. Why did it happen? He doesn't know. He has his opinions and others will have theirs. He doesn't think there is necessarily any dishonest person or malcontent or whatever. Mr. Phillips does think there may be some element of the county appraiser being mad at Mr. Greanias and the township for not having done their job, not that she went through and did that to just to get back them. He knows there was one high sale in the group that was public and therefore part of the information that was publically available, and he knows it skewed the result. Several of us that own other facilities know some things about that particular sale that make it.... It should have been excluded. His real concern is that there was no reality check. There was no process by which somebody asks if this makes sense and step back from it. As a result 22 business owners will be spending \$3,000 a piece to pay for lawyers, to pay for an appraiser to go through the official appeal process as it is setup and required by the statutes and your process. We have taxed 22 businesses \$3,000 a piece just to appeal and see if it can be changed. It comes across and it comes back as one of those factors that keep people from wanting to buy businesses in this area or wanting to upgrade their businesses. That is not in the direction you want to go to cause the community to improve, and that is his biggest concern. He has given them his story but what does he want besides educating. He said several of you or all of you are leaders within your party. His understanding of the process by which the township board and appraiser and all that process become elected officials is that they come from nomination from your caucuses. He would say to you strongly do not re-nominate a single person who is on that township board or the assessor for that matter. Start over. He doesn't care if they are Republicans or Democrats there is not a constructive, useful body there. He attended their meeting which was the first one done at night so that the public could go. He attended that meeting last week. It was unbelievable. It was some combination of arrogance and ignoring the people around and disrespecting each other. There is no functional value in what's going on in the Decatur Township administration. You're the ones, who have to fix that, or your party caucuses have to fix that, and he was not singling out either one; it is both. The second thing is more difficult. It is his understanding that the appraiser for the county is subject to a contract with all of you, and specifically with Mr. Dunn as your leader. He asks you to think about recharging, you're going to have a new person in there in March, recharging what you are asking them to do and what your contract calls for them to do. Mr. Phillips asked that they insert in there a need for a logic check, a need for as you come up with your recommendations

and data that you step back from it and have somebody look at and ask if it makes sense. If you come up and say ok then more power to you and go on. But, that is not required in the current process. It's a mathematical, add, subtract and come up with an answer even if that answer makes $2 + 2$ come out to be 12. The second thing he would ask them to do with that group is that the current process is an assessor and a review board, but that current review board is appointed and sees as its duty only to handle complaints and only to hear appeals. That's what it views its duty to be. He thinks its duty should be much broader. Its duty should be to make sense of the process, to be a review for the assessor. It should be a review person to say, what are we doing and where do we fit and how is the logic. Their duty should be to see if there is anything we can do to the process to attack it upfront rather than after notices go out. His understanding is that by statute once the notices go out on what your appraisal is, it cannot be changed except through the review process. But, upfront something could be done. When you are going to have major change maybe getting a constituent group together to look at it and say help me with the facts here and make sure what you're about to do makes some sense. He thanked them for listening.

Tom Greanias: Mr. Greanias said he is the Decatur Township Assessor. He was going to agree with this gentleman here that it is a dysfunctional organization out there. He was not here to argue about that tonight. He has his problems out there which have been well documented with budget cuts. It was kind of a small thing in the press but they reduced the pay for the next elected assessor. So, he is debating on whether he even wants to try and run again. He cannot argue about electing new people. The reason he was here was that we really do have a major problem within the county in the assessing system and we have for many, many years. This is supported by annual reports put out by the Department of Revenue. We do need to correct this problem. You have a task force that you have formed at the county level and he is concerned about it in that it has not been open to the public. Nor, have those of us involved like himself, been invited to attend those meetings to hear what is going on. Mr. Dunn was on the radio saying one of the goals of that task force is to make the system better and find out some ideas. We have some good things going out in his office right now. His board doesn't think so but we do. We have some ideas and would like to contribute. He feels the task force should be open to the public. He thinks some of his board members should be out there to hear what's going on. They're living in their own little world out there. He is encouraging them to open up that task force to the public. He thanked them.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he did ask the task force board if we could open it up for Mr. Greanias to come and participate. He said right now we are basically done going through the properties that they wanted to look at, but they wanted to do that and not actually have the public there because they were representing certain people in their segment of society. We went through those property reviews and are making a list of things we can do to make the system better, and you will be invited to the next meeting and so will the press. He can't remember for sure but he thinks the next meeting is the 24th. He will get that information to Mr. Greanias.

OFFICEHOLDERS' REMARKS:

Mr. Meachum: Mr. Meachum told them that Mr. Oliver had surgery this week and to keep him in their thoughts. He asked if the meeting that Mr. Dunn just mentioned would be on the website because he thought Mr. Phillips might want to attend since it will be open to the public.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said he would send him an e-mail.

There was no old business presented at the meeting.

There was no new business presented at the meeting.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said they would go back to the amendment for Resolution G-3754-9-12.

Mr. Dudley: Mr. Dudley said there needs to be a correction in the heading of the resolution where it says consultant.

Mr. Minich: Mr. Minich said they could just take out the word consultant in the heading and leave the rest. Mr. Minich said the corrections provided by Mr. Waks represent what he intended in his original amendment.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mr. Minich moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to amend Resolution G-3754-9-12 in the heading by taking out the word consultant and also in the third paragraph which will read as follows: WHEREAS, the Macon County Board desires to obtain the services of Integrys Energy Services, Inc. to provide for the education of the public regarding electrical aggregation and assistance with any technical advice regarding the Program. The fourth paragraph will read as follows: WHEREAS, the Environmental, Education, Health & Welfare Committee reviewed the presentation of two potential consultants on September 6, 2012, and voted to recommend the approval of Integrys Energy Services, Inc. to the full County Board to provide such education services. The fifth paragraph will read as follows: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Macon County Board that it hereby approves entering into an agreement with Integrys Energy Services, Inc. to provide aggregation services to Macon County for its electrical aggregation Program.

QUESTION:

Mr. McGlaughlin: Mr. McGlaughlin asked if the action of approving this resolution binds the county to any contractual obligations.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said they will be entering into an agreement similar to what you have in front of you; the Integrys Agreement. He said it is just a shell agreement and we will have to work out the terms of it.

Mr. Dunn: Mr. Dunn said it will be a 12 month agreement which is what we talked about earlier.

Mr. Wicklund: Mr. Wicklund said he still had concerns with paragraph four where it talks about the EEHW Committee hearing from two potential consultants on September 6, 2012. We actually only heard from one consultant and one energy supplier.

Mr. Waks: Mr. Waks said they could amend that to, reviewed presentations on September 6, 2012, and voted to recommend....

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Ashby, Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Minich, Smith, Taylor, Westerman, Wilkins, Williams, Zimmerman

Nays: Wicklund

AYES = 16

NAYS= 1

MOTION CARRIED. (AMENDMENT TO RES. G-3754-9-12)

ROLL CALL.

Ayes: Cox, Drobisch, Dudley, Dunn, Greenfield, Hogan, McGlaughlin, Meachum, Minich, Smith, Taylor, Westerman, Wilkins, Williams, Zimmerman

Nays: Ashby, Wicklund

AYES = 15

NAYS = 2

MOTION CARRIED. (MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED ON RES. G-3754-9-12)

MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION

Mr. Williams moved, seconded by Mr. Drobisch to go into closed session for personnel issues and pending litigation by prior roll call vote

MOTION CARRIED. (ASHBY & WICKLUND SHOWED THEIR VOTE AS YES)

MOTION TO OPEN SESSION

Mr. Greenfield moved, seconded by Mr. Meachum to return to open session by prior roll call vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Drobisch moved, seconded by Mr. Dudley to adjourn until Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 7:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.