

OPERATIONS & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
February 17, 2015
5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Linda Little, Chair
Bryan Smith
Dave Drobisch
Kevin Meachum
John Jackson

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Steve Beam
Carol Reed, Auditor
Mary Eaton

MEMBERS ABSENT

Verzell Taylor
Jerry Potts

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

The meeting was called to order by Chair Linda Little at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of prior meeting, January 20, 2015 made by Kevin Meachum, seconded by Dave Drobisch, and motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND CLAIMS

Motion to approve payroll as presented made by Bryan Smith, seconded by Dave Drobisch and the motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve the claims report as presented was made by Bryan Smith, seconded by Dave Drobisch and motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS

Auditor's Office –

Carol Reed reported that the insurance committee would be meeting on Wed, 2/18 and explained that the committee is comprised of about 15 employees from various departments that meet quarterly. John Malachowski from Gallagher comes and reviews medical claims and how we're doing, we talk about wellness initiatives and the benefits fair, etc.. This time there will be a speaker from Catapult Healthcare. Carol explained that they are thinking of doing this in the next year. They bring a mobile lab on site to the workplace and do blood tests & screening with the hope of finding individuals with unmanaged health care problems like pre-diabetes or pre-hypertension, etc... If we can get people to come, it is on the worksite and easy to get to. We hope to get more people involved and catch some of those things that if treated early may save on

claims later on. The insurance committee will be the ones to make the recommendation to do that if they like it. She announced that the meeting is at 1:30 p.m. in the 5th floor conference room if anyone would like to attend.

Kevin Meachum commended Carol on the idea and said it is pro-active health prevention. He said the county has been trying to move in this direction for the past 5 to 6 years. He said he thought this was a good direction to go in and it benefits the employees. Carol added that since it is considered preventative, it should be 100% covered with no deductible so the employees will not have any out of pocket costs.

County Board –

Linda Little encouraged Board Members to participate in UCCI offerings whenever possible. She said they are always in the morning during the week and realized that they are inconvenient for working people, but if ever they have an opportunity, there is no charge and always an excellent lunch and they are very beneficial. She said that she had attended several and had gone to last month's and the entire afternoon was dedicated to chairmen and vice chairmen where they spent a lot of time talking about Robert's Rules and how they apply to County Boards. She stressed that they are very beneficial.

Linda also reported that the Mohamet Aquifir Coalition group would be meeting on Wed, 2/25 and she would be attending that. She said she would report back, starting at EEHW

County Clerk –

Steve Bean distributed information on marriages, deaths & births from the last few years. He commented that out of the 1,588 births in Macon County, there were only 53 to mothers under 19. In 2008, the office began going to computerization in vital records and they no longer get hard copies of records. There is no longer any paper birth, (except for fetals) or death records. It is all done electronically which works fine as long as the state system is up. There is a first Vital Records Director since Governor Ryan left office. During the Blagojevich & Quinn terms, a director was shared with another agency. The Sangamon County Clerk will be leaving his position to take over vital records.

Mr. Bean pointed out that the general fund money went from \$297,913 to \$433,338 and in comparison to last year, we are ahead of that right now in fees. The additional copies being sold has gone down. This shows that the fee study works and even though the office is catching some flack over the increased fees, the County is in line with most counties as more and more of them are raising their fees.

There is not a primary election next Tuesday. That saved us about \$90,000. There will be an election run for the Soil & Water Conservation next week.

The 26th is the first day of in house voting for the April 7th election. The military ballots (there's only one) and ballot requests by mail (there are only 9) have to be gotten out. There are only 7

people in the County running as write ins and none are for the Mayor of Decatur. Most are for Park & Library Districts. Two years ago the General Assembly fixed it so the offices did not have to be open for Good Friday, Saturday & Easter. SB172 took all that language out. Most all offices will probably not be open for Easter and probably not Good Friday or Easter Saturday either. There is not same day registration for this election like there was in November. That was only good for last November. Now we go back to the rules that were from March, 2014 and it will be the last time we follow those rules because SB172 in which we will be required to have same day voter registration at the precincts. Steve said that when he came into office, there were 104 precincts & 102 voting sites. Today, there are 72 precincts & 40 voting sites. Every county over 100,000 population will have to have same day registration in a polling site. Costwise, comparing us to other counties, we had the 2nd lowest price per voter and the cost per precinct was #3 from the bottom, so we do pretty good. The bad thing is we purchased 50 laptops in 2009 and they are all XPs which will have to be replaced. The last ones were about \$350 each.

Steve said he has been talking with the DPBC about problems in splitting the office up at the new location. We used to have no excuse absentee voting, then early voting, then it went back to no excuse absentee voting. SB172 says early voting will start 50 days before the election and absentee voting will be done by mail so that knocks down the different types of voting needed. He said he's been working with Josh and has proposed a way to stay on the 2nd floor because about 20 filing cabinets would have to be moved every election. That would be too difficult and this way, there would not be a need for so many part time employees. Now, if you go in to vote you go into the vault. With the new design, there could be a special room and when you go out, it would self lock and it will be a better protection for the ballot boxes and elections.

Kevin Meachum asked what kind of additional costs would be involved with the same day registration at the polling places. Steve said they didn't know yet, but they had sent questions back in to both the Democratic & Republican staff. He said they know they'll have to hire and train someone because it takes, for grace period voters in our office, an average of 15 to 20 minutes. He said they were trying to figure out some way to handle people that are in the wrong polling place. Ballot by demand is done in the office now to cut down on costs, but if ballot by demand has to be put into 40 sites, it is going to be expensive. If touch screens are used, it is going to take training. Election judges are working into their 80's & 90's and don't know technology. People are working longer, so there aren't many younger judges working for us. That is part of why the locations have been cut down. Keeping internet connections is also a problem. Kevin said he is concerned that since this is an unfunded mandate, it might cost the Macon County taxpayers quite a bit of money in the future. We budget once a year and it's kind of tough to budget for it. Steve said he bought the laptops in 2009 because Speaker Madigan wanted to put same day registration in that year and he figured we would have had it by now. Unfortunately, now the laptops have become obsolete. Last time \$800,000 to \$900,000 was spent and the Federal paid for most of it. Looking at the replacement, after all the consolidation, it's going to cost about \$600,000. Right now, the annual cost for non-personnel is going to be about \$50,000 for two elections. The ballots are more complicated and not everybody gets the same ballot style.

Linda Little asked if SB172 would be in effect for 2016 cycle. Steve confirmed and Linda asked if, by the time budget time rolls around, the figures will be known. Steve said yes.

Recorder –

Mary Eaton distributed reports and offered to answer any questions. There were none.

Workforce Investment Solutions – No report

Citizens' Remarks None

Old Business None

New Business None

CLOSED SESSION None needed

NEXT MEETING Monday, March 16, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

Bryan Smith made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave Drobisch and Chair Little adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office