

League of Women Voters Kane County Government Monitoring Committee Report

MEETING: County Board

DATE: March 13, 2007

REPORTING: Gina Richter

ATTENDING: All county board members, 4H high school students (1 from each township)

ABSENT: Davoust

WAS PRESS IN ATTENDING: YES NO

DID PRESS COVER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: YES NO

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

- 1) speakers: J.C. Gillett: 4H spokesman. He is a high school student in Sugar Grove. He belongs to 1 of 23 4H groups in Kane county. He explained that 4H "ain't all cows and cooking!" Of the 619 that belong in Kane County, 84% do NOT live on farms. They are active in many things and do many service projects.
- 2) Presentation: Certificate of appreciation to Mary Ochenschlager. She is retiring from the Regional Planning commission which she has been a member since 1994; she was active in the 2020 and 2030 plans and has been educating the community to be stewards of our natural resources for 40 years.
- 3) Zoning petitions: all approved
 - 4126: Campton Township 12 acres from farming to 6 lots with a 6 acre lake
 - 4127: Campton Township 7 acres from farming to E-3 will be 3 homes total
 - 4128: Blackberry Township 8 acres from farming to E-1 (lowest density)
 - 4131: Kaneville Township 70 acres from farming to E-3
 - 4132: Blackberry Township 22 acres from farming to PUD with 6 acres of open space to forest preserve for preservation of creek
 - 4133: Hampshire Township special use for a Dog Kennel

4) Resolutions and Ordinances:

07-69 thru 07-89 and 07-92 thru 113 approved as a whole without discussion

#07-90: Appropriation for Government Liaison Services (lobbyists) passed after discussion

Why do we need these people? It IS the system, and had become a necessity; we need to have the contacts in Springfield. There were 6500 bills introduced this session. No legislator can keep up with all of them. We need someone fighting the bills that will hurt Kane County, and explain how it will impact its people. It would cost more if board members needed to make constant trips to Springfield and keep up with all the bills.

Barb W. asked how often we get reports. Monthly reports are furnished, but board members on the committee talk to liaisons 2-3 times a week, and when there are hot topics, they talk several times a day.

#07-91: Professional Services Contract: approved after discussion: board members would like more detail in future reports

#07-114: Alteration of Statutory Speed Limits in 1 subdivision in St. Charles Township from 30 MPH to 25 MPH. Discussion on changing just one subdivision, are we setting a speed trap? Passed after much discussion with no votes from Hurlbut and Mitchell

5) Speakers:

Brain Stahlmacher: Nancy Lane Indian Prairie Subdivision: flooding in neighborhood due to broken/blocked drain tiles. This has been occurring for 8 years, and finally ALL members of neighborhood are agreed that something must be done. It will cost \$4,500 to remove blockage. Health Dept on site now, will get an emergency access order from judge this afternoon to have a contractor go on the property and resolve the emergency situation. This is a health situation because entire septic systems are under water and electrical boxes are under water.

Jim MacRunnels, Elburn: bonds approved at Special County Board Meeting on Feb 27; bond sale of \$1.3 million

6) vote to go to executive session to discuss settlement of claims and pending litigations.

MOST CRITICAL ISSUES(S): Lobbyists and flooding in neighborhood which has been occurring for 8 years.

COMMENTS/NOTES:

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

NEXT MEETING: April 10, 2007 @ 9:45 am