

EEHW COMMITTEE MEETING

July 27, 2017

5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Helena Buckner, Vice Chair
Rachel Joy
Jerry Potts (arrived @ 5:40 p.m.)
Grant Noland
Matt Brown

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tim Dudley, Chair
Debra Kraft

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Jennifer Gunter, P&Z
Carol Reed, Auditor
Kris Horton, Animal Control
Kathy Powless, VA
Dianna Heyer, Health Dept
Nathan Pierce, Historical
Matt Snyder, ROE
Doug Harlan, U of I Extension
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Buckner at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the June 22, 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Noland and the motion carried 4-0.

CLAIMS

Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the report of the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Noland and the motion carried 4-0.

ZONING –

Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case R-01-07-17, A Petition for Rezoning Submitted by Steve Henry, Executor, R.B. Henry Estate

Ms. Gunter explained this petition is a request to rezone approximately 9.886 acres from A-1 Agricultural zoning to RE-5 Single Family Estate. It is located at 3877 Kraft Road in Mt. Zion Township. On July 12th, a public ZBA hearing was held and based on finding of facts and staff recommended approval, the vote was 5-0 for approval of the rezoning.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Noland and the motion carried 4-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case S-01-06-17, A Petition Requesting Renewal of a Special Use Permit Submitted by Cody & Kathleen Rose

Ms. Gunter explained that this is a request to renew a special use permit to operate a hair salon at the residence located at 5200 White Oak Court in Whitmore Township. The ZBA (Zoning Board of Appeals) held a public hearing on July 5, 2017 and voted 5-0 to approve with the stipulations listed in the resolution.

Mr. Noland made a motion to approve forwarding the resolution to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Joy and the motion carried 4-0.

SUBDIVISIONS – None

REPORTS

Planning & Zoning –

Ms. Gunter reported that the Planning & Zoning budget is included in the County Board budget. Their oversight is O&P while P&Z's oversight is EEHW. Rather than presenting to both, it will be presented to O&P on 8/21.

Veteran's Assistance

FY18 Budget Review

Ms. Powless explained that most of the budget had been reduced. The emergency assistance is normally at \$20,000. It has been reduced to \$18,000, but the \$2,000 was put into a new line (7250) for contractual to cover the office when both she & her assistant have to be out of the office. This is necessary because they have a van that people call to schedule rides on every day.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve forwarding the proposed budget on to the Finance Committee Budget Hearing with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Noland and the motion carried 4-0.

Environmental Management – No report

Health Department

Ms. Heyer reported that between bed bugs, the media and kids going back to school immunizations, the Health Department has been pretty busy. She said they are trying, along with their community partners such as the City, some of the multi-unit housing authorities, hospitals, etc. to educate the public on bed bugs. A Community forum will be held in the near future with a special speaker where people can come and hear about this issue and hopefully make a dent in this issue.

Ms. Heyer announced that the Health Department nurses would be available at the Health Department on Saturday, August 12 for immunizations while the Jump Start Health Clinics are going on at the First Christian Church and Crossing Healthcare. So, if kids need their immunizations, they can go directly over to the Health Department between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Health Department will be present at the Decatur Celebration and the Farm Progress Show. The Environmental Health Specialist will be there making sure all the food is being prepared safely, the temps are as they should be, preparers are washing hands and things are being stored and prepared properly.

In an update on the Cupcake Law, aka the Home Kitchen Act, Ms. Heyer said that since this ordinance passed through the city and the county, they have seen an increase in reports of

people thinking they can operate a home kitchen out of their home and being caterers preparing foods like BBQ and potato salads. These are things that are highly hazardous foods and they are being prepared under this ordinance that they think gives them the right to do this. The ordinance only allows for non-hazardous baked goods to be prepared under this ordinance. There have been about 17 situations that have been followed up on. The biggest concern is that a foodborne outbreak will occur because people are preparing things improperly, not handling things the way they should. Most foodborne outbreaks are from hand to mouth contact and poor sanitation. She said they are keeping a log of the calls they are getting and she would be reporting back to the committee. Another thing under this ordinance is that people have to list allergens and she said she did not think that is being done. However, according to the ordinance, the Health Department has no authority to check those things. The only authority they have is to investigate an actual outbreak after something has already occurred. She said that some of her fears are coming to fruition with the ordinance as people are preparing foods they should not be and are acting as caterers for events under the umbrella of this law thinking they have the right to do that. Mr. Noland asked about the 17 incidents. Ms. Heyer explained that they were complaints, not outbreaks, about people and when the complaints were followed up on, they found that they were preparing all kinds of different of hazardous foods under the guise of the Cupcake / Home Kitchen Act thinking that it was perfectly fine. She said they were able to give some education and thankfully, there have been no outbreaks so far. She expressed concern that it may just be a matter of time.

Animal Control

Ms. Horton distributed reports and explained that they are finishing the Christmas in July Foster Program.

Regional Office of Education

FY18 Budget Review

Mr. Snyder said they had made the required 6.2% cut. He explained that most of their money goes into salaries and health insurance. They have a staff member retiring this year and two retiring next year. So, the staff salaries are a little inflated right now, but should change in the next couple of years. He explained that they are with both Macon & Piatt Counties. They take the EAV from the two counties and this year Macon County's portion is 79.1% and Piatt's is 20.9%. Everything else is state or grant funded. About \$6 to \$7 million is run through the office with about \$200,000 coming from the county.

Mr. Potts made a motion to approve forwarding the proposed budget on to the Finance Committee Budget Hearing meeting with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Joy and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Snyder went on to report that they are waiting on the legislature. The budget was passed but the education portion of the budget is in limbo. They're fighting about it. He said he had a chance to meet with the Governor and some Senators about it. The Democrats passed an education piece. They're holding on to it saying they will deliver it to the Governor on Monday. The Governor says he will amendatory veto the section that deals with the Chicago pensions which will impact everything educationally. He said they have to wait to see what is going to happen. Either the bill will be over ridden or it will be accepted or the bill will die and

they will have to start again. Our schools will not be funded without this piece of the legislation.

Mr. Potts asked if the bills actually says that Chicago will get some of the pension money. Mr. Snyder said it depends on who you talk to. He said they had met with the Republican side today. There were several superintendents from this area. Chicago pays its own pensions. They also get a block grant of money that the downstate schools do not get. Downstate schools have to apply for special ed money, transportation money, etc. Chicago gets a big chunk of money and then they also pay their own pension costs. They are not a part of the TRS pension. There have been tradeoffs throughout the years, so the Governor says they are either going to get their block grant or their pension money but not both. That is where he is at with it. Mr. Potts summarized, saying Chicago has their own pension, their own system, but yet they get state money for that pension? Mr. Snyder said no. They have their pension, they have everything. They weren't paying into the pension system for the last years and now they're the same as the state. What the Governor wants is to put everybody into one system. He wants to bring Chicago into the downstate system. Chicago's is actually funded better than the state's. So, there are all sorts of moving pieces. Basically, if Chicago gets all that money, Decatur stands to not get \$1.6 million that they would have gotten. The Superintendents' contention is that the bill has already passed the House and Senate and at least they know they'll get money and if this bill dies, it will start over and there is no saying when that money will come. Superintendents have been saying for years that they'll take cuts if they can just get the money and get it on time. They are really supporting SB1 and a lot of people in education are just because it's guaranteed money that hasn't been guaranteed before. Mr. Snyder said that their office is still owed a million dollars from last fiscal year for their programs. Most schools are in the same boat. Everyone will be able to start, but it will depend on what their reserves are as to how long they'll be able to go.

Mental Health – No report

Historical Museum

FY18 Budget Review

Mr. Pierce explained that they get tax levy money. They are not asking for anything different. Normally they get about \$28,000 to \$30,000 and then cover themselves by raising their own money or getting it however they can come across it. One change, compared to last year, is that there has not been a part time employee for most of the year because Mr. Pierce had been able to build up more of a volunteer base. He said he was not sure how much longer that would last, but even if it changes, it gets paid out of their own pocket and would not affect anything where the county is concerned.

Mr. Potts made a motion to approve forwarding the proposed budget on to the Finance Committee Budget Hearing with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Noland and the motion carried 5-0.

U of I Extension

Fy18 Budget Review

Mr. Harlan explained that the Extension Office has a \$5 million tax levy, but currently they are at about \$2.7 or a little over half of the tax levy. They are not asking for any new money this year. It will be the same tax levy as last year. The office is not a county office, but is a state office. No state money has been received for the last 2 years. Even though it is funded, it not being projected again for next year because the money is controlled by the Governor's Office. Even though it is a statutory requirement that they give the \$10 million they owe, it hasn't been seen. Some income was reduced. The 6.2% expense reduction was accomplished. One educator retired and they have been without two community workers and a program coordinator for about 6 months. The salary line has gone down as a result. Plans are to hold those positions open. Mr. Harlan said he does not feel it is the right environment to be hiring. In FY19, a clerical person will retire and that position will be held unless the money starts coming in. Belts are being tightened, other sources of income are being sought, and the tax levy remains the same as last year.

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve forwarding the proposed budget on to the Finance Committee Budget hearing with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Joy, and the motion carried 5-0.

Citizen's Remarks – none

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS – none

Closed Session – none needed

NEXT MEETING Next regular meeting – August 24, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Noland, the motion carried 5-0 and Chair Dudley adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham