

Winnebago County Board
Operations and Administrative Committee Meeting
County Administration Building
404 Elm Street, Room 303
Rockford, IL 61101

Wednesday, January 18, 2017
Immediately Following the Combined Finance Committee and
Public Safety Committee Meeting

Present:

Gary Jury, **Chairman**
Angie Goral
Joe Hoffman
Dorothy Redd
Eli Nicolosi
Keith McDonald
Jean Crosby

Others Present:

Frank Haney, County Board Chairman
Carla Paschal, Chief Financial & Budget Officer
Amanda Hamaker, County Administrator
Charlotte LeClercq, Assistant Deputy State's Attorney
Roman Gray, Purchasing Director
Chris Dornbush, Director of Development Services
Chris Green, RRS

AGENDA:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of November 28, 2016 Minutes
- D. Public Comment – This is the time we invite the public to address the Operations and Administrative Committee with issues and concerns. We ask you to limit your comments to three minutes. Personal attacks or inappropriate language of any sort will not be tolerated. We will allow a maximum of five speakers on a first come basis with sign up at the meeting. Speakers may not address zoning matters which are pending before the ZBA, the Zoning Committee or the County Board. Personnel matters or pending or threatened litigation may not be addressed in open session. An individual may speak a maximum of three times per calendar year on the same topic. This prohibition shall include the repetition of the same topic in a statement on what is purported to be a different topic. After acknowledgement by the chair, please stand and state your name. Thank you.
- E. Resolution Authorizing the Chairman of the County Board to Execute an Easement Grant to Barnes International Inc.
- F. Nepotism Policy
- G. Current Purchasing Policy as it Relates to Responsible Bidder
- H. Staff Report
- I. Other Matters
- J. Adjournment

Chairman Jury called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM.

Motion to approve the Minutes of November 28, 2016 Minutes

Moved: Mr. Hoffman, Seconded: Ms. Crosby.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

Chairman Jury omitted reading the Public Comment section of the Agenda due to no one present

to speak.

Mr. Jury – Motion to place items E, F, and G on the table for discussion.

Moved: Mr. Nicolosi, Seconded: Ms. Goral.

Resolution Authorizing the Chairman of the County Board to Execute an Easement Grant to Barnes International Inc.

- Mr. Jury – This company is expanding by the Justice Center. They need to come across our retention property and this gives them the easement.
- Mr. Dornbush – Barnes International approached us but because of the retention area, it's under the jurisdiction of the City of Rockford. We had conversations with the City and they are okay with the easement going through the retention area. They don't see any issues.
- A discussion followed.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Nepotism Policy

Chairman Haney presented.

- We are having good discussions with the County wide elected. We are trying to work with them internally to get some common policy language. I believe we have a problem of nepotism. The concern I have is it impacts morale and the work environment.
- Information was distributed and explained. Section 1 is the current language of the State's Attorney that a lot of the elected are using as base discussion. Regarding number 3, section 2, this is the section I added special restrictive language for the County Board Office including the Chairman and people working inside the County Board Office. I also included for discussion, County Board members as part of this more restricted language. What we are suggesting for consideration is not hiring family members to work anywhere in the County.
- Regarding the current Nepotism Policy, at first I was told we didn't have one but we do at the Board level. What I am suggesting over the next few weeks is to broaden the basic policy that would apply to the departments. The other thing worth discussion is section 2 which is the more restricted language.
- If you are comfortable sending it back to the Administration, we can bring you something as a formal recommendation with your input in two weeks.
- Mr. Jury – I suggest we all study this. Then we will call a meeting and you will be notified. In order for us to formulate a policy where we are going to bring in elected officials, we are going to need a copy of their Nepotism Policy in order to draft something.
- Ms. Goral – We need a benchmark to go by.
- Chairman Haney – We are going to be reviewing HR related policies and procedures. We will be doing that in the course of a year.
- Mr. Fiduccia – I want to make sure qualified people get the positions.
- Mr. Jury – I would like every committee member to forward their comments to Amanda. Then we will draft a draft and bring it back to this committee.
- Chairman Haney – There are a few topics where we may want to have discussions at policy level on appointments, host fee policy, and on purchasing policy.
- A discussion followed.

Current Purchasing Policy as it Relates to Responsible Bidder

- Chairman Haney – I wouldn't say we have an issue as much as the topic of when we have a bid process. We want to address this on a policy level. We either should or shouldn't have preference to local. I would ask that we look at this in a policy level and not as an individual bid level.
- Mr. Nicolosi explained his research of the Government Finance Officers Association.
- Ms. Hamaker – In the overall list of policies and procedures that Roman and I will be working on together and hopefully have information to bring you over the next several months, with respect to the kind of bid, it's not just a matter of seeking the Statute specific to this particular type of bid. We can also work a little bit outside the box with how we bid.
- Mr. Jury – Contact Mr. Gray and Amanda with your thoughts with regards to purchasing.
- A discussion followed.

Staff Report

None

Other Matters

None

Motion to Adjourn.

Moved: Mr. Nicolosi, Seconded: Ms. Goral.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Ferling
Administrative Assistant