

RESUME OF MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
COUNTY BOARD, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
January 10, 2017

The County Board of Champaign County, Illinois met at a Special Meeting, Tuesday, January 10, 2017, at 6:03 P.M. in the Lyle Shields Meeting Room, Brookens Administrative Center, 1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois with C. Pius Weibel presiding and Dan Busey as Clerk of the Meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call showed the following members Present: Esry, Harper, Hartke, Hiser, King, Maxwell, McGuire, Mitchell, Patterson, Petrie, Rector, Rosales, Summers, Tinsley, Alix, Anderson, Clemmons, and Weibel – 19; Absent: Jay and Michaels – 2. Thereupon, the Chair declared a quorum present and the Board competent to conduct business. Board Members Cowart and Cres arrived after roll call.

**PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Chair Weibel led the board in prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

**READ NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Clerk read the Notice of the Meeting, said Notice having been published in *The News Gazette* on January 5, 2017.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDA**

Board Member Esry offered the motion to approve the Agenda/Addenda; seconded by Board Member Rosales. Approved by voice vote.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Chair Weibel informed public participants there was a five-minute limit per participant and a total of one hour allowed for public participation. David Laker addressed the board in support of continuing publicly funding the Champaign County Nursing Home in any way possible and urged the board to vote against placing the referendum question on the ballot regarding sale or disposal of the home. Mary Hodson, Member of the Champaign County Nursing Home Advisory Board and President of the Nursing Home Auxiliary addressed the Champaign County Board on behalf of Cathy Emanuel, also a member of the Champaign County Nursing Home Advisory Board and former president. Ms. Hodson reiterated the conclusion of the Champaign County Nursing Home Advisory Board recommendation against sale or lease of the Nursing Home and its recommendation to seek extra capital and funding of the home. Michael Wilmore, Staff Representative of AFSCME Local 900, addressed the board regarding the Employees

of the Champaign County Nursing Home, the high level of accountability, public service, and nature of the care the employees bring to their jobs. Mr. Wilmore went on to say that the employees are committed to continuing to increase the quality of their service and that they oppose the resolution to sell or close the Nursing Home. Evelyn Thomas, a Restorative Aid of the Champaign County Nursing Home, spoke regarding how the employees of the home serve the residents of the home and spoke on behalf of her coworkers in opposition of closing or selling the Nursing Home. Mary Shultz addressed the Board in opposition of putting the closing or sale of the Nursing Home on the Ballot. Amanda Bloomfield, Human Resource Director of the Champaign County Nursing Home, spoke regarding support of placing the Property Tax Referendum Question on the ballot and preserving the over 250 jobs provided by the Nursing Home. Belden Fields gave a brief history of the Champaign County Nursing Home and urged the board not to place a Referendum Question allowing the sale or closure of the home on the ballot. Bobbi Trist called the Nursing Home an invaluable resource and spoke in support of a proposed property tax Referendum Question and against one regarding Sales Tax. Danielle Chynoweth, an informal volunteer, gave her support for a property tax to help fund the Champaign County Nursing Home and vowed to organize the community to help get the Referendum Question passed. Bryan Schluter addressed the board regarding Champaign County's property taxes, calling them the "highest in the nation", and his disapproval of raising them for purposes of funding the Nursing Home.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Board Member Rosales informed the Board that the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Reverend Martin Luther King Celebration of Champaign County would kick off at Parkland College, U Building, Friday January 16<sup>th</sup> at 4 P.M.; food drives, community service, and other events will be held in the County all week.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ron Aldrich, County Consultant, delivered a Preliminary Report on the state of the Champaign County Nursing Home. Discussion followed. Champaign County Treasurer Dan Welch delivered a financial history of the Champaign County Nursing Home. Discussion followed.

Board Member Hartke recommended adoption of [Resolution No. 9832](#) Placing a Referendum Regarding an Increase in the Maximum Tax Rate Levied by Champaign County for the Purpose of Maintaining a County Nursing Home on the April 4, 2017 Ballot; seconded by Board Member Heiser. Discussion followed. Board Member McGuire requested a point of order regarding the order of the agenda; Board Chair Weibel ruled Board Member Hartke's motion out of order.

Board Member Maxwell recommended the adoption of Adoption of [Resolution No. 9830](#) Placing a Referendum Question Regarding the Sale or Disposal of the Champaign County Nursing Home on the April 4, 2017 Ballot; seconded by Board Member Esry. Discussion followed. Board Member Rosales made a motion to put the resolution to a roll call vote; seconded by Board Member Maxwell. Discussion followed. Board Member Hartke made a motion to table Resolution No. 9830 until items C & D under New Business had been voted on; seconded by Board Member Patterson. Board Member McGuire called for a roll call vote regarding tabling Resolution No. 9830; seconded by Board Member Esry. Chair Weibel asked the Clerk to call the roll.

Tabling Resolution No. 9830 failed by roll call vote.

Yeas: Crews, Hartke, Hiser, King, Patterson, Petrie, Summers, Tinsley, Alix and Weibel – 10;

Nays: Cowart, Esry, Harper, Maxwell, McGuire, Mitchell, Rector, Rosales, Anderson and Clemmons – 10.

Discussion followed. Board Member Rosales moved for a roll call vote on Resolution No. 9830 Placing a Referendum Question Regarding the Sale or Disposal of the Champaign County Nursing Home on the April 4, 2017 Ballot.

Resolution No. 9830 failed by roll call vote.

Yeas: Esry, Harper, Maxwell, McGuire, Mitchell, Petrie, Rector, Anderson, and Clemmons – 9;

Nays: Cowart, Crews, Hartke, Hiser, King, Patterson, Rosales, Summers, Tinsley, Alix, and Weibel – 11.

Board Chair Weibel declared a brief recess at 8:46 P.M. At 8:56 P.M. Board Chair Weibel declared a quorum present and the Champaign County Board back in session.

Board Member Hiser made a motion to suspend the rules to adjust the agenda to consider [Resolution No. 9832](#) (item D) before [Resolution No. 9831](#) (item C); seconded by Board Member Hartke. The motion was brought to a voice vote which showed division; the motion failed by show of hands.

Board Member Petrie recommended adoption of [Resolution No. 9831](#) Placing a Referendum Regarding the Imposition of a Special County Retailer's Occupation Tax for Public Facilities on the April 4, 2017 Ballot; seconded by Board Member Esry. County Administrator Rick Snider delivered a presentation explaining the specifics of [Resolution No. 9831](#) and [Resolution No. 9832](#) and the repercussions thereof. Discussion followed. Board Chair Weibel asked the clerk to call the roll.

Resolution No. 9831 failed by roll call vote.

Yeas: None;

Nays: Cowart, Crews, Esry, Harper, Hartke, Hiser, King, Maxwell. Patterson, Petrie, Rector, Rosales, Summers, Tinsley, Alix, Anderson, Clemmons and Weibel – 20.

Board Member Hartke recommended adoption of [Resolution No. 9832](#) Placing a Referendum Regarding an Increase in the Maximum Tax Rate Levied by Champaign County for the Purpose of Maintaining a County Nursing Home on the April 4, 2017 Ballot; seconded by Board Member Rosales. Chair Weibel asked for permission to speak from the Chair. There was no objection. Discussion followed. Board Chair Weibel asked the clerk to call the roll.

Resolution No. 9832 adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Cowart, Crews, Hartke, Hiser, King, Patterson, Petrie, Rosales, Summers, Tinsley, Alix and Weibel – 12;

Nays: Esry, Harper, Maxwell, McGuire, Mitchell, Rector, Anderson and Clemmons – 8.

Discussion followed.

Board Chair Weibel yielded the Chair to Vice Chair Rosales and made a motion to reconsider [Resolution No. 9830](#) Placing a Referendum Question Regarding the Sale or Disposal of the Champaign County Nursing Home on the April 4, 2017 Ballot; seconded by Board Member Rosales. Discussion followed. Chair Weibel moved for a roll call vote.

Resolution No. 9830 adopted by roll call vote.

Yeas: Esry, Harper, Maxwell, McGuire, Mitchell, Petrie, Rector, Summers, Alix, Anderson, Clemmons and Weibel – 12;

Nays: Cowart, Crews, Hartke, Hiser, King, Patterson, Rosales, and Tinsley – 8.

## **ADJOURN**

Board Chair Weibel adjourned the meeting at 10:02 P.M.



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Gordy Hulten, Champaign County Clerk  
and ex-Officio Clerk of the Champaign County Board  
Champaign County, Illinois