

Technology Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM

Members Present: David Welter, John Almer, Ken Iverson, Chris Balkema, Millie Dyer, Jeremy Ly

Members Absent: Ann Gill

Also Present: Ron Severson, Dan Duffy, Sandy Pommier, John Watters, Susan Bates

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2011 meeting was made by Dyer, seconded by Almer. Motion carried.

No Public Comment.

Reports from the Assessor, Clerk or Treasurer were not given as they were not present.

A motion to approve the claims as presented was made by Almer, seconded by Balkema. Motion carried.

The use of Social Networking (Facebook) by county employees on county computers was discussed. Watters proposed an amendment to Section 3.17 of the Grundy County Personnel Manual (Computer and Electronic Mail Usage). The committee discussed the reasoning and need for the amendment. A motion was made by Dyer, seconded by Balkema to add the following to Section 3.17:

Grundy County Board, Animal Control, EMA, HR, Health and Technology Departments are approved to use Facebook, Twitter and third party Social Networking sites for the purposes of electronically conveying public information and performance audits of those approved uses. This approval is limited to the purpose of communicating public information and does not include personal use. Motion carried.

IT Director, John Watters presented an existing boilerplate agreement and asked the committee to forward it to the County Board for approval, pending reconciliation and review by the States Attorney's office. The agreement would be for GIS data exchange between Grundy County and Clean Line Energy. Clean Line Energy is looking into the installation of high voltage direct current transmission lines in Grundy County for the effective transportation of renewable energy to communities in Illinois. The County Administrator, Land Use Director and County Board Vice-Chairman have met with representatives of Clean Line Energy and their consultant from HDR Engineering. A motion was made by Balkema, seconded by Iverson to recommend the agreement to the County Board pending the terms with Clean Line and HDR and States Attorney's review. Motion carried.

The committee viewed the county's website as Watters presented the proposed process for the County Board meeting minutes and ordinances and resolutions to be added to the website for public access. A discussion was held in regards to the necessity of the ordinances and resolutions being on the site. Welter asked the committee to view another county's website that he felt was user friendly. The committee discussed the possibility of getting a template of this website for Grundy County and the costs that may be associated with it. A motion was made by Balkema, seconded by Ly to authorize the County Board meeting minutes to be put on the county's website. Motion carried.

Welter addressed the importance of a timeline for the goal of having the committee meeting minutes, meeting agendas and county budget on the website and suggested a May 31st deadline. Watters stated that due to several upcoming projects, the May deadline may not be feasible. The committee agreed to start out with only the County Board meeting minutes and add the remaining items by late July. The committee then further discussed the process of how the committee meeting agendas will be put on the website and the concerns of meeting the posting deadlines.

Watters provided the IT Department Task Report for the committee's review. Dyer noted a large number of computer virus reports. Welter suggested educating the employees on the importance of virus awareness; possibly incorporate the matter in the county newsletter.

Severson updated the committee on the appointment of the States Attorney to be held at the Special County Board meeting at 5:30 PM.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dyer, seconded by Almer. Motion carried.