

Grants Committee Meeting

July 8, 2015

MINUTES

Members Present:

Joseph Kassly, Jr., Chairman
Rick Vernier, Vice Chairman
June Chartrand
Oliver Hamilton, Sr.
John West

Members Excused:

Roy Mosely, Jr.
Kenneth Sharkey

Staff Present:

Terry W. Beach, Executive Director
Jennifer Little, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Kassly called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the IGD Administrative Conference Room.

Chairman Kassly asked if there were comments from the public on the agenda. There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Mr. West and a second by Mr. Hamilton the minutes from the June 10, 2015 Grants Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Chartrand and a second by Mr. Hamilton the letter from the Grants Committee Chairman to the County Board Chairman transmitting the payroll and expense claims for the month of June, 2015 was approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. West and a second by Mr. Hamilton the Check Register Summaries for the pay periods in the month of June, 2015 were approved unanimously to be placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Community Services Group report being placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Community Development Group report being placed on file.

There were no questions concerning the Workforce Development Group report being placed on file.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Chartrand and a second by Mr. Hamilton, the Community Services, Community Development and Workforce Development Group reports were approved unanimously to be placed on file.

Resolutions

Old Business

New Business

A. Director's Report

- Terry Beach briefed members on the ongoing fight between the Governor and the General Assembly regarding the budget and the effect it has on government agencies at the County level such as the Intergovernmental Grants Department. He stated IGD has an annual budget of approximately \$19 million which funds a variety of federal and some state programs. 19% of those funds, approximately \$3.7 million, are actual state funds that do not have a federal origin; part of Weatherization and the LIHEAP state add-on [PIPP] are state funds. The remainder of the \$19 million, approximately, \$15.3 million is federal dollars. Mr. Beach explained some federal funds come directly to IGD such as HOME and CDBG; however workforce investment funds are first funneled through the state.

Mr. Beach explained IGD is affected by the state budget crisis because without a state budget there are not specific line items for federal funds to be deposited and then dispersed to agencies such as IGD. WIA has been given permission to continue to take applications but not enroll and the costs incurred will be reimbursed by the grant if and when the state budget is approved. The state will hold all funds, state and federal, until there is a line item in the state budget. The Workforce Development and Weatherization programs and staff are at greatest risk. Mr. Beach is actively discussing concerns with senior staff. He expressed frustration that approximately \$15 million of federal funds that have been allocated by Congress cannot be given to IGD due to a state line item.

Ms. Chartrand asked if anyone was advocating on our behalf in Springfield. Mr. Beach responded yes; there are trade groups representing us such as the Illinois Workforce Partnership, as well as, directors of various agencies. There is talk of taking the State to federal court for the release of the federal funds.

Mr. West asked if there were other funds that could be used temporarily. Mr. Beach responded no and explained federal funds that bypass the state and come directly to IGD are HUD related funding for HOME and Community Development funds for infrastructure, streets, sewers, rehab, and demolition; those funds are allocated and cannot be used for other programs and activities. Mrs. Chartrand asked if the state can grab those funds and use them. Mr. Beach answered no. Mr. Beach stated we are not the only ones facing this situation; not-for-profits are struggling and facing shutting down.

Vice Chairman Vernier asked if local newspapers were notified of the effect of the budget crisis on residents and businesses in St. Clair County. Mr. Beach responded yes, he will be consulting with the Chairman in regard to contacting the newspapers.

Mr. Beach closed by stating the next couple weeks will be tense but we continue to serve people in need. Vice Chairman Vernier along with other committee members applauded and thanked Mr. Beach for the great job he is doing.

Other Comments

Adjournment

Chairman Kassly entertained a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Vice Chairman Vernier and a second by Mr. Hamilton, Chairman Kassly adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.