

APPROVED 4/4/12

**MINUTES
METRO PEORIA AD-HOC COMMITTEE
December 14, 2011
2:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mary Ardapple; Michael Phelan; Andrew Rand, Timothy Riggerbach; Ryan Spain
MEMBERS ABSENT:	William Spears
OTHERS PRESENT:	Lori Curtis Luther - County Administrator; Scott Sorrel - Asst. County Administrator; Carol Trumpe - County Board Member; Eric Dubrowski - Chief Financial Officer; Patrick Urich - Peoria City Manager; Christopher Setti - City of Peoria; Amy McLaren - County Highway; Kate Van Beek - HR Director; Doug Crew - PASS Forward; Joyce Blumenshine - Heart of Sierra Club; Chris Kaergard - PJS

The meeting was called to order by Committee Member Rand at 2:33 p.m.

A motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2011 was made by Mr. Spain and seconded by Mr. Riggerbach. The motion carried.

Discussion

- Staff Report on PASS Forward

Ms. Curtis Luther advised that County and City staff worked jointly on prioritizing the recommendations presented by PASS Forward. She stated that additional recommendations not noted in the PASS Forward report but considered areas of opportunity for collaboration, are also being analyzed.

Mr. Setti said that staff reviewed each of the 22 recommendations from PASS Forward, placing the different concepts against the feasibility and acceptability portions of the cooperation strategy matrix, and assigned each a category as follows:

- 1) Recommendations that could be implemented in the next 6-12 months
- 2) Recommendations that need refined, with implementation accomplished within 12- 24 months
- 3) Recommendations considered complex & requiring further direction from either the County or the City, with implementation in increments and/or over a number of years

Mr. Sorrel and Mr. Setti summarized each of the 22 recommendations in the 3 areas of study (Public Works, Information Systems and Economic Development), and explained the reasoning behind each assigned category.

After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to include an additional Category "0" (managerial intergovernmental relationship within scope of authority) to several of the Public Works recommendations. Committee offered input into each category and discussed strategies on how best to move forward on Category "0" and "1" recommendations. Ms. Curtis Luther stated this is helpful in determining how best to prioritize tasking staff. (Mr. Phelan enters meeting.)

Mr. Spain said it was his expectation that recommendations meeting the consensus of the Committee could be moved to the next step in the process for both the City and the County.

Mr. Phelan emphasized the importance of communication with the Management Services Committee on all recommendations on all levels, even if not moving forward to that committee. Ms. Luther advised that a staff review will be added to the Management Services agenda as a discussion item.

Mr. Riggerbach noted that it is essential that dialogue on both Information Systems and Economic Development be a continuing top priority, especially due to the fact that both the City and County have position vacancies in both areas. (Mr. Riggerbach leaves meeting.)

Ms. Curtis Luther advised that the immediate question is how to present a concept of sharing IT Services to the respective boards. She stated that the County is recommending moving forward with hiring a CIO, as opposed to a formal joint hiring, and establishing a contract with the City with that individual. She requested direction/feedback from committee as to the recommendation. Mr. Phelan stated that any recommendations should go forward to the Management Services Committee.

Ms. Curtis Luther emphasized that input from both County and City staff on the open position is essential. Mr. Urich advised that the City plans to modernize systems, which would put them more in line with the County's current systems and ease collaboration between the two governments.

Mr. Phelan noted that Economic Development is one of the more important areas that should involve collaboration between the City and County. Ms. Ardapple suggested holding a meeting of the Committee of the Whole regarding Economic Development, before the topic moves to Committee. It was the consensus of the Committee to return to the topic of Economic Development in several months, giving the County an opportunity to develop a total unified policy and the City to develop its Community Development Department. Mr. Spain advised moving forward with the "fair play" agreement.

- Washington Street Scope

Mr. Urich advised that the City is in the process of making improvements along Washington Street, and a meeting was held last week with Caterpillar and the Museum group to discuss both timing of the improvements and funding concerns. He advised that the total cost to improve the entire stretch of Washington Street from Main St. to the Harrison Street roundabout is \$6.3 million. Although the County has earmarked \$1 million for the improvement project, that leaves \$5.3 million in costs. Mr. Sorrel advised that Staff envisioned the \$1 million appropriated in the FY2012 budget going towards extending radius and constructing the outer bus lane, and, if sufficient funds are available, the first northbound traffic lane on Washington Street.

Mr. Spain stated that in answer to the museum's concern about ongoing work at the time of the museum opening, the City has agreed to consider a rapid path improvement plan that would be in place by the October 12, 2012 opening that would still accommodate the new design and other essential components, such as lane reductions on a portion of Washington Street. Additional improvements not impacting the museum opening could then be deferred to a future date.

Mr. Spain suggested that the City move forward with Phase II of the design in order to implement improvements, at a cost of approximately \$600,000.00.

Miscellaneous

Ms. Blumenshine distributed a letter from the Heart of Illinois Sierra Club regarding the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program, an option for purchasing electricity from alternative suppliers. She stated that the program would be an ideal cooperative project, and is hopeful that the City and County can move forward in utilizing as much "green" energy as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Recording Secretary: Jan Kleffman