

Cook County Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 5, 2006
10:00 am

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Joseph Mario Moreno, acting on behalf of the absent President John Stroger, who was hospitalized. The agenda contained 97 items and reports from Finance, Zoning and Building, Roads and Bridges were distributed.

Commissioner Daley presented the *Finance Committee Report* which covered 72 pages of approximately 14 items each. As is their custom, Commissioners presented blocks of items for passage, voting aye followed by individual commissioners who vote no or present on numbered items. The budget items included pay outs for attorney fees for indigent defendants and special court cases (\$914,000-rounded), a category entitled *Bills and Claims*, ranging from parking lot management, elevator maintenance, printing and mailing of voter instruction guide materials, counseling services, to communication systems, etc., not totaled on handout.

Under category, *Bills and Claims: Health Facilities*, payments were made for Stroger Hospital expenses and offsite expenses to other health facilities not totaled on handout. *Industrial Commission Claims* are payments to those injured in the "course of their employment" totaled: \$232,700 (rounded). *Subrogation* recoveries amounted to \$4,889.84. *Self-insurance Claims* which appear to be pay outs for injuries or accidents on county property or by county equipment to non-county claimants, totaled \$18,773.63. *Proposed Settlements* totaling \$7,000 (rounded) are claims by people in custody of the Sheriff's department. An amount totaling over \$800,000 was approved for medical services for *Patient/Arrestee Claims*. The *County Treasurer* requested transfers funds for four items. Under the category of *Employees' Injury Compensation Claims* invoices totaling \$400,500 (rounded) were approved.

Several commissioners were adamant that they wished the board to be informed of the relationship between actual expenses and budget line items.

Zoning and Buildings items passed.

Roads and Bridges items passed.

The board reconvened at 11:27 am and moved rather quickly through its agenda.

Item 90 titled *Public Health and Private Nuisance Ordinance of Cook County, Illinois*, lists as its purpose, "...to promote ...[the] protecting of and improving the public health and quality of life for citizens residing in the unincorporated area of Cook County." It contains 46 items governing compost pile placement, domestic sewage treatment, maintenance of swimming pools, disposal of healthcare items,

i.e., needles, syringes, pet defecation on another's property, leaf burning (which is allowed under certain circumstances), etc. Item passed.

A resolution entitled: Review and Public Hearings on the New Cook County Voting System and Equipment contained nine "Whereas" clauses detailing problems. The resolution called for three public hearings, one city, two suburban, with participation of representatives of the Office of the Cook County Clerk, the Chicago Board of Elections and Sequoia Voting Systems, Inc. Notices are to be issued by the Clerk of the Board for publication in the newspapers. The resolution was submitted and co-sponsored by 15 commissioners

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm.
submitted by Julie Sass