

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: Legislative Committee
CHAIRPERSON: John Lang
DATE/TIME February 10, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.
PRESENT:

☒ John Lang ☒ Hendrica Regez ☒ LaDon Trost ☐ Darcy Wild
☒ John Schultz ☒ Diane Gallagher ☒ Don Zillig

A quorum was established.

Other Board Members: Don Hill

Others: Scott Toot

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Lang called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.
2. **Minutes Approval:**
 - a) Minutes of the October 15, 2021, December 9, 2021 and January 13, 2022 Legislative Committee meetings – **Don Zillig made a motion to approve the October 15, 2021, December 9, 2021 and January 13, 2022 Legislative Committee meetings minutes as presented. Seconded by John Schultz and motion passed.**
3. **Citizens' Comments:** None.
4. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a) FY2021-22 Strategic Goals and Plans – This item will continue to be worked on.
 - b) Should the Board seek an advisory referendum on the 1% service tax and when? – Don Zillig suggested that when this advisory referendum is presented it needs to be explained that the 1% service tax would affect tourists and not local people. Hendrica Regez suggested that outreach be done to advise the public of this advisory referendum. Don Hill stated that this is a tax that will not show up on your tax bill. It will only affect guest accommodations. **LaDon Trost made a motion to seek an advisory referendum on the 1% service tax for the general election in 2022. Seconded by Hendrica Regez and motion passed.**
5. **New Business:**
 - a) Legislation that passed in one day – Nothing discussed regarding this item.
 - b) Governor's Budget – The State of Illinois budget was reviewed and discussed. In 2019 Illinois was still recovering from the budget impasse. Illinois is benefitting from reductions in its pension liabilities from the pension buyout program. So far reduced liability by an estimated \$1.4 billion. Additional \$515 million in savings achieved through negotiations with insurance companies and providers. Illinois Family Relief Plan includes grocery tax freeze, property tax rebates, gas tax suspension, and license fees waiver. Environmental Protection Agency proposed budget for FY23 is \$545 million all funds includes funding for new electric vehicle consumer rebates of \$8.5 million.
 - c) Proposed legislation that could affect the County. Take a position on the legislation to support or oppose. – The below bills were discussed HB3530- Employee Security Act this bill has a number of sponsors. Establishes a framework for employee discipline

and discharge. Provides for severance pay. Limits the use of electronic monitoring. HB4169- Income Tax Local Gov Fund this bill would give the County more money from the State income tax fund. HB4393- Local Gov Best Value Bidding. HB4466- FOIA List of public documents amends the FOIA. Additional paperwork for the FOIA officers. HB4610- Law Enforcement Training Board. Appropriates \$100 million from the State Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency Fund to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board for grants to local police departments and County Sheriffs' offices to be used for police training, equipment, facility improvements and personnel costs. HB5009- Peace Officer Arbitration. This requires dispatchers to decide if a call is a mental health issue and if it is it would then need to be recorded to the State. HB5365- Local government officer compensation. Basically states that everything an officer receives would need to be listed as part of their compensation package. Cell phone, vehicle, etc. SB3010- Income Tax – local gov district. Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. This mirrors HB4169. SB1883- Community Mental Health tax. This would give the Sheriff's office some money for mental health services. This would also help with the inmates requiring services for mental health. SB3120- Support through loss act. Requires an employer to grant each employee 24 hours paid leave time on the employees first workday of each calendar year. Provides that the employee shall use the paid leave time as needed during that calendar year for either (i) an absence resulting from a pregnancy loss; an unsuccessful round of intrauterine insemination or of an assisted reproductive technology procedure; a failed adoption match or an adoption that is not finalized because it is contested by another party; a failed surrogacy arrangement; or a diagnosis or event that impacts pregnancy or fertility. SB3968- General Election Day this bill would make Election Day a holiday. SB3063 – Unfunded Mandates Prohibited - this bill has been assigned to a committee. Provides that any State mandate regarding any subject matter implemented on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act that necessitates additional expenditures from local government revenues shall be void and unenforceable unless the General Assembly makes necessary appropriations to implement that mandate. Provides that the failure of the General Assembly to make necessary appropriations shall relieve the local government of the obligation to implement any State mandate. Makes conforming changes. Does not currently have an assignment. HB4066 Critical Race Theory Academy – this amends the Illinois Police Training Act. Establishes the Critical Race Theory Academy, which shall be operated by a board of 5 members appointed by the Governor. Provides that the board shall appoint members to the Academy Curriculum Committee and the members shall include critical race scholars, critical sociologists, critical educational leaders, critical community organizers, members of the General Assembly, law enforcement officer policy makers, and invested community members. Requires the Committee to create curricula for the Academy for both police academy candidates and police officers. Provides that all candidates that begin courses at a certified school on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act are required to complete the Academy before graduation from the certified school and current police officers must complete Academy continuing education yearly. Provides that the Academy may collaborate with colleges and universities to establish earned college credit for successful completion of the Academy. Provides that, until that time the General Assembly appropriates funds for the operation of the Academy, the Law

Enforcement Training Standards Board shall provide administrative and other support to the Critical Race Theory Academy, including providing sufficient funds to enable the Academy to fully operate. Provides that, if the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board would approve any licensure scheme for police officers, no police officer may be licensed until he or she has successfully completed at least one year's worth of continuing education requirements at the Academy. LaDon Trost asked to review the following bills as well. HB3691 – This bill states that before a permanent appointment as a law enforcement can happen they first must receive a bachelor degree with a major or minor in social work. HB451 Ban No Knock Warrant – Scott Toot read the bill that states: amends the Illinois Police Training Act. Establishes the Critical Race Theory Academy, which shall be operated by a board of 5 members appointed by the Governor. Provides that the board shall appoint members to the Academy Curriculum Committee and the members shall include critical race scholars, critical sociologists, critical educational leaders, critical community organizers, members of the General Assembly, law enforcement officer policy makers, and invested community members. Requires the Committee to create curricula for the Academy for both police academy candidates and police officers. Provides that all candidates that begin courses at a certified school on or after the effective date of the amendatory Act are required to complete the Academy before graduation from the certified school and current police officers must complete Academy continuing education yearly. Provides that the Academy may collaborate with colleges and universities to establish earned college credit for successful completion of the Academy. Provides that, until that time the General Assembly appropriates funds for the operation of the Academy, the Law Enforcement Training Standards Board shall provide administrative and other support to the Critical Race Theory Academy, including providing sufficient funds to enable the Academy to fully operate. Provides that, if the Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board would approve any licensure scheme for police officers, no police officer may be licensed until he or she has successfully completed at least one year's worth of continuing education requirements at the Academy. This bill hasn't moved in over a year but a new co-sponsor was added very recently on February 7, 2022. Diane Gallagher asked what the protocol was for signing witness slips on bills. John Lang advised that County Board Members could sign a witness slip representing self. Lang stated currently most of the meetings are being held virtual where in the past he was able to attend and speak to committee members. At times he was even able to speak in front of the committee. Hendrica Regez stated she would like to watch HB4373 and possibly sign a witness slip for this bill.

- d) Legislation committee members want to bring to the committee attention for action. – Nothing additional at this time.

6. **Citizens' Comments:** None.

7. **Board Member Concerns:** John Schultz advised that the City of Galena had a zoning meeting last night regarding a new proposed project.

8. Next regular meeting will be held on March 10, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.

9. Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m. following a motion made by John Schultz. Seconded by LaDon Trost and motion passed.