

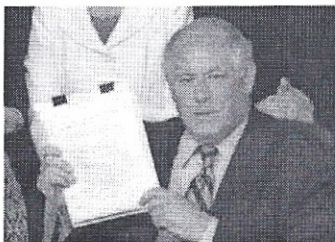
# Counties *at the* Capitol

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Illinois Association of County Board Members and Commissioners

President Mike McLaughlin, Adams County  
Kelly J. Murray, Executive Director • Letitia and Taylor Anderson, Legislative Consultants

413 West Monroe • Springfield, Illinois 62704 • 217/528-5331 • [www.ilcounty.org](http://www.ilcounty.org)

August 21, 2009



## Gov. Quinn signs transparency bills

On August 21, Gov. Quinn signed bills to increase transparency and accountability in state government.

### P.A. 96-0542 (SB 189)

This legislation rewrites the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to give the Attorney General's Office authority to decide disputes between those requesting information and governmental bodies. In addition to creating a permanent public access counselor within the Attorney General's Office to oversee enforcement of the act, it strengthens fines for noncompliance. The legislation also allows fewer exemptions to the act and shortens the time for a government to respond to a request. IACBMC expressed to the Governor inadequacies in the law, however, none of these problems were rectified. We will advocate for trailer legislation to address these inadequacies next session. **A Tele-Institute will be held on September 10 to discuss the Act's changes (see attached flyer).**

*continued on page 4*

## Video Gaming Act sparks questions and local actions

On August 11, DuPage County became the first county in Illinois to ban video gambling machines. The Video Gaming Act (**Public Acts 96-0034, 96-0037 and 96-0038**), enacted on July 13, 2009, legalizes the use of video gaming terminals in certain liquor establishments, truck stops and fraternal/veterans clubs throughout the state. Under Section 27 of the Act, a municipality or county may pass an

ordinance prohibiting video gaming within the corporate limits of the municipality or unincorporated area of the county, respectively. Video gaming can also be prohibited through a majority vote for passage of a referendum. A petition for referendum must contain the signatures of not less than 25% of the voters of the municipality or county.

There are many questions about the new law that remain unanswered at this time. The Illinois Gaming Board (IGB) has not projected a start date for video gaming in Illinois and most questions will remain unanswered until the Administrative Rules are in place. No date has been set as to when those rules will be submitted to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rule (JCAR) or adopted by the IGB.



### What we do know...

- Authorized video games include, but are not limited to, video poker, line up, & blackjack.
- No date has been set as to when license applications will be available.
- Video gaming will only be allowed in licensed retail liquor establishments where "on-premise" consumption of alcohol is served (e.g., bars and restaurants), licensed truck stops, and licensed fraternal and veterans establishments.
- Video gaming is restricted from 1,000 ft. of an intertrack wagering location; 1,000 ft. of the home dock of a licensed riverboat; and 100 ft. of a school or a place of worship.
- A license is required to place a video gaming terminal in your establishment. Those found without a proper license are subject to penalties. License application fees based on the type of license range from \$50 - \$5,000; annual license are from \$50 - \$10,000.
- Video gaming terminals must be located in an area restricted to persons over 21 years of age and subject to rules promulgated by the IGB.
- Up to five machines may be placed at each licensed establishment.

### Imposition and Distribution of Tax

A tax of 30% is imposed on all monies put into a video gaming terminal minus credits paid out to players ("net terminal income"). Five-sixth of the tax collected is deposited into the Capital Projects Fund, with the remaining deposited into the Local Government Video Gaming Distributive Fund. Those municipalities and counties that do not prohibit video gaming will be allocated funds monthly by the Department of Revenue in proportion to the tax revenue generated from video gaming within the eligible municipality or county as compared to the tax revenue generated from video gaming statewide. **The funds may be used for any general corporate purpose.**



## New Public Acts significant to the operation of county government

Governor Pat Quinn has signed several bills into law that are either initiatives of the IACBMC or being tracked by the association. This report presents some of the more significant new laws affecting county government. The list is not all-inclusive. IACBMC staff will continue to monitor bill signings and a more comprehensive report will be published in the coming months. Bills included in this report are effective immediately unless otherwise noted.

**P.A. 96-0058 (SB 223)**

**PREVAILING WAGE EXPANSION**

Provides that "public works" includes all projects financed in whole or in part with bonds, grants, loans, or other funds made available by or through the State or any of its political subdivisions. Does not include projects undertaken by the owner at a single-family residence or multi-family residence.

**P.A. 96-0098 (SB 1462)**

**VETERAN BURIAL**

Requires that a county board designate a person who shall cause to be properly interred the body of any honorably discharged veteran who served with the armed forces of the United States. The expense of the burial shall not exceed \$900 (instead of \$600).

**P.A. 96-0116 (SB 1691)**

**INCOME TAX**

Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act with regard to property-related costs with respect to the investment credit.

**P.A. 96-0122 (SB 207)**

**PROPERTY TAX APPEALS**

Known as the Property Owner Bill of Rights it enhances information to be provided to the public regarding property tax assessments, including appeals. Effective January 1, 2010.

**P.A. 96-0124 (SB 230)**

**OCCUPATION TAX PROCEEDS**

Allows counties to share public safety tax funds with fire protection districts.

**P.A. 96-0419 (SB 104)**

**JUVENILE RECORDS**

Permits persons charged by a unit of local government with the duty of investigating the conduct of law enforcement officers to inspect and copy records maintained by law enforcement agencies that relate to a minor who has been arrested or taken into custody before his or her 17th birthday.

**P.A. 96-0432 (SB 2095)**

**COUNTY JAIL ACT**

Upon notification from the Circuit Clerk of an outstanding fine or costs imposed by the court on a jail inmate, the warden may, prior to release of the inmate, deduct from money credited to any account of the inmate an amount to pay or reduce the outstanding balance.

**P.A. 96-0478 (SB 148)**

**RAILROAD CROSSING**

The Illinois Commerce Commission, in cooperation with a local law enforcement agency, may establish in any county a system for automated enforcement (cameras) of railroad crossing violations.

**P.A. 96-0480 (SB 543)**

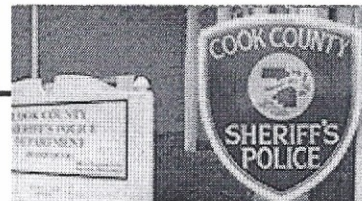
**SUBDIVIDING PROPERTY**

Extends the benefits of preferential assessments for subdivided land to subsequent developers. Includes a sunset clause of December 31, 2011.

**P.A. 96-0486 (SB 1948)**

**ASSESSMENTS BOOKS**

Extends the deadline for Township Assessors to turn in their books from April 15 to June 15. Provides that after June 15, CCAOs do not need to notify a township assessor in order to view a property for valuation purposes.



### New law cracks down on inmate scams

Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart joined with Gov. Quinn to sign a bill that will protect Illinois citizens from costly scams by increasing penalties for inmates who commit fraud, theft or any other unlawful practice from jail. In one case, twenty Cook County jail inmates collectively charged more than \$50,000 in illegal phone calls that reached several states. Inmates used payphones to "hijack" a phone number by convincing the victim to forward their phone number to the jail phone, which then allows the inmate to charge future calls to the victim's home account.

**P.A. 96-0497 (HB 4066)**, makes it a Class 4 felony for an inmate to commit a phone scam from jail or prison. It also makes any use of electronic communication for fraud, theft, identity theft or any other unlawful practices while in jail or prison punishable to the same extent.

### Medical cannabis bill still alive

Pending medical marijuana legislation is expected to come up again in the 2010 Session, despite the fact that every major law enforcement organization in the state including the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Sheriff's Association has opposed the bill.

**Senate Bill 1381**, sponsored by former state's attorney Bill Haine (D-Alton), would allow seriously ill patients with certain debilitating conditions to use medical marijuana upon recommendation of their physicians. There is concern that, if passed, the Illinois medical marijuana law could legitimize drug cartel operations and provide a cover for their trafficking efforts. **Senate Bill 1381** has passed the Senate and the House Human Services Committee.





**P.A. 96-0170 (HB 585)  
COMPETITIVE BIDDING**

Provides that in a county with fewer than 2,000,000 inhabitants that certain contracts in excess of \$30,000 (instead of \$20,000) must be let by competitive bid.

**P.A. 96-0175 (HB 704)  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Provides that in Calhoun, Edwards and Union counties, the registered voters of the county may, upon referendum initiated by (i) the adoption of a resolution by the board of county commissioners or (ii) a petition signed by not less than 10% of the registered voters in the county, establish a 5-member board of county commissioners.

**P.A. 96-0176 (HB 722)  
ILLINOIS POWER AGENCY**

Allows a county board to adopt an ordinance allowing it to buy power on behalf of its residents by grouping the consumers together, which lowers the cost.

**P.A. 96-0186 (HB 952)  
PREVAILING WAGE**

Amends the definition of "public works" to provide that the prevailing wage must be paid to those employed on demolition projects undertaken by a public body with the use of public funds.

**P.A. 96-0188 (HB 1003)  
MUNICIPAL ANNEXATION**

Except for property located in certain counties, if property that is the subject of an annexation agreement is located more than 1.5 miles from the corporate boundaries of the annexing municipality, that property is subject to the ordinances, control, and jurisdiction of the annexing municipality unless the county board retains jurisdiction by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members.

**P.A. 96-0227 (HB 146)  
COUNTY LAW LIBRARY FEE**

Gives county boards the authority to raise filing fees in civil cases to pay for increasing costs of county law libraries. The bill raises the current limit from \$13 to \$18. The limit goes up an additional dollar in 2010 and to \$21 in 2011.

**P.A. 96-0237 (HB 347)  
COUNTY DETENTION HOME**

Provides that, if the county board of any county has levied a tax for a detention

## State stipends still pending

It has not been determined if the State will *fully* fund stipends for elected officials in the FY 2010 budget which began on July 1, 2009. Under plans floated by the Governor, state agencies will have to reduce headcount, furlough workers and cut grants to local governments that help pay for county services.

Through the Department of Revenue, the state provides salary assistance for state's attorneys, public defenders and supervisors of assessments. It also provides stipends for treasurers, sheriffs and coroners and bonuses to assessors who attain high standards for accuracy. Legislation was passed in 2008 to include county auditors in the law. In the last state budget, the total amount of this assistance was \$24 million. The administration is targeting a \$4+ million reduction in that assistance.



**IMRF Memo #311 on State stipends for elected officials is attached.**

home and cannot adequately support the facility, the county board may expend the tax receipts for detention services purchased through agreements with other governmental units.

**P.A. 96-0295 (HB 3630)  
COUNTY CARE**

Allows a county board with a 3-member board for care and treatment of persons with a developmental disability to increase the board to 5 members.

**P.A. 96-0306 (HB 3746)  
WIND TOWERS**

Provides that a county or municipality may not require a wind tower or other renewable energy system that is used exclusively by an end user to be set-back more than 1.1 times the height of the renewable energy system from the end user's property line.

**P.A. 96-0352 (HB 61)  
PUBLIC BUILDING COMMISSION**

Provides a Public Building Commission has the power to employ and discharge "design-build" experts without regard to any Civil Services Act.

**P.A. 96-0366 (HB 641)  
BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION**

Changes the amount of time funds apportioned for allocation to road districts to be used for bridge construction will lapse if the funds remain uncommitted from 24 months to 48 months.

**P.A. 96-0501 (HB 242)  
PTELL DEBT SERVICE EXTENSION**

Amends the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law to increase the debt service extension base each year by the lesser of 5% or the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index during the 12-month calendar year preceding the levy year.

**P.A. 96-0503 (HB 460)  
BUILD ILLINOIS BOND ACT**

Provides that certain bonds that may currently be used for loans or grants to units of local government for wastewater facilities may also be used for grants to serve unincorporated areas.

**P.A. 96-0504 (HB 493)  
TRUTH IN TAXATION NOTICE**

Authorizes a taxing district to include, with the required notice under the Truth in Taxation Law, a statement concerning the taxing district's limits under tax caps.

**P.A. 96-0566 (HB 883)  
TEST WIND TOWERS**

Deletes the requirement that test wind towers be dismantled within 3 years of installation.

**P.A. 96-0588 (HB 379)  
REVERSE AUCTION**

Permits units of local government to use the electronic reverse auction method for procurements of certain supplies and services.



## Board outraged over proposed changes to state environmental law

The Will County Board and many local residents voiced their strong concerns about a proposed state law that would allow contaminated soil into local quarries during a public workshop in July. Although **Senate Bill 1607** was introduced but not passed during the last legislative session, many believe such a proposal could quickly resurface in the coming months.

"This is a very serious issue for our county because of the quarries we have available for this type of debris," said Chairman Jim Moustis. "There needs to be additional protections in the law for our residents to assure their safety and that of the environment."

The change would allow contaminated soils to be accepted at clean construction demolition debris (CCDD) quarries that are not required to have a liner or monitor groundwater. There are nine CCDD quarries in Will County out of 45 statewide, and only Kane County has as many in all of Illinois. Under current law, contaminated soils are restricted as a special waste for disposal only at a sanitary landfill and numerous environmental safeguards are in place. However, quarries do not face the same regulations and many have depths close to the water table.

"Any possible level of contamination is unacceptable to me and the residents of Will County," said Minority Leader Walter Adamic (D-Joliet). "There is no gray area when it comes to contaminated drinking water. This is about dumping on the cheap, and I urge our legislators to vote 'no.'"

State Senator A.J. Wilhelmi was one legislators who voted against the bill and participated in the Board's workshop. "There are too many concerns and not enough answers," said Senator Wilhelmi.

Some board members have also expressed concerns that **Senate Bill 1607** benefits quarry owners looking to make easy money off the anticipated cleanup of Chicago sites for the Olympic Games.

"We want to make the public aware of the serious negative environmental consequences if this proposed bill every passes," said Legislative Committee Chair Lee Ann Goodson (R-Plainfield). "The bottom line is there are inadequate protections and a failure to provide meaningful requirements. Will County should not become a dumping ground for the region's contaminated debris at the expense of our health and welfare."

The Illinois Attorney General's Environmental Division recently released a memo stating the bill has "inadequate protections for the environment and the public's health, safety and welfare." It goes on to dramatically stress "that contaminated materials will almost assuredly be added to the State's groundwaters since the mines, quarries and other excavations are unlined and often involve fractured geological surfaces."

Although an industry representative attempted to assure those in attendance that the bill does provide adequate regulations for the disposal of contaminated debris, many believed the provisions do not go far enough.

"I don't want just adequate; I want safe for our residents," said board member Deborah Rozak (R-Wilmington), who sits on the board's Legislative and Policy Committee.

*The Will County Board welcomes feedback and comments from other county officials concerned about Senate Bill 1607. Please direct your comments to Lee Ann Goodson, Legislative Committee Chair, at [lgoodson@willcountyillinois.com](mailto:lgoodson@willcountyillinois.com).*



Jim Moustis, Chairman  
Will County Board

## Transparency Bills

*continued from page 1*

### P.A. 96-0543 (SB 1602)

This bill establishes strict ethics requirements and restrictions for current and prospective members of state boards and commissions appointed by the Governor and calls for the creation of a website that provides information about board and commission membership. In April, Gov. Quinn launched **Appointments.Illinois.gov**. The site allows citizens to access information about membership and vacancies in the state's 300 boards and commissioners and fill out online applications for those appointments that are made by the Governor.

### P.A. 96-0555 (SB 54)

This bill strengthens the Governmental Ethics Act. The legislation forbids the promise of state jobs and contracts or political favors in exchange for campaign contributions and increases scrutiny of officials, state workers and lobbyists. Requires state employees responsible for procuring goods or services to fill out an economic disclosure form, including detailing relationships with outside entities that may create a conflict of interest. It also makes changes to the State Officials Employees Ethics Act (SOEE), including shortening the time-frame for new employees to take their initial ethics training to the first 30 days of employment (from six months) and requires employees to certify completion of training. It expands the duties and investigative powers of the Executive Inspectors General and increases the jurisdiction of the Inspector General of the Secretary of State to include investigations of wrongdoing by any person or entity related to the Lobbyist Registration Act.

The Illinois Transparency and Accountability Portal provides Illinoisans with access to state government spending information.

[www.Accountability.Illinois.gov](http://www.Accountability.Illinois.gov).







Macoupin County  
#60 Carlinville Plaza  
Carlinville, IL 62626  
217-854-9604 fax 854-7804  
macoupin\_co@extension.uiuc.edu

August 28, 2009

Dear Friend:

On Thursday, September 10, Michael Luke, Senior Assistant Attorney General, will present a special Tele-Institute on the upcoming changes to the Open Meetings Act. This program will be offered at the University of Illinois Extension office located at #60 Carlinville Plaza beginning at 3:00 p.m. We will be using the U of I statewide audio-teleconferencing system.

These changes will be effective January 1, 2010 and will affect all local government boards, along with all other special districts boards and councils.

Please join us for the update on the changes and how they will affect your boards. If you plan to attend, please telephone 217-854-9604 by September 8.

Sincerely,

Paula D. Robinson  
County Extension Director  
Macoupin County

PDR:amc

Enclosure



# ***Changes are coming...***

## **Open Meetings Act Tele-Institute**

**Thursday, September 10, 2009**

**3:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Michael Luke, Senior Assistant Attorney General, will discuss the changes to the Opening Meeting Act that will be coming January 1, 2010. Included in Senate Bill 189 is the establishment of a public access counselor in the Attorney General's Office for reviewing complaints and issues regarding electronic communication for meetings. These changes will affect all local government and special district boards and councils. Please join us for the update on the changes and how they will affect your boards.**

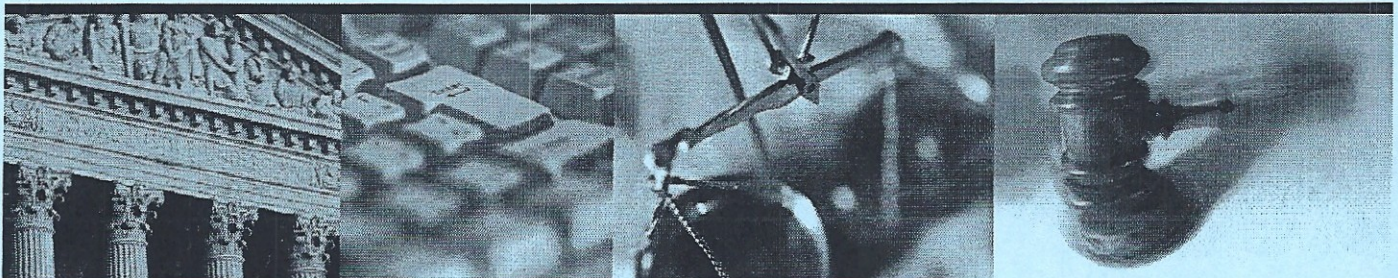
**The Open Meeting Act Tele-Institute will be broadcasted over a statewide audio-teleconferencing system through Illinois county Extension Offices. This program qualifies for 2 hours of general level Certified County Officials (CCO) credit.**

**Please contact the University of Illinois Extension office at (217)854-9604 to register.**



**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
EXTENSION**

University of Illinois \* U.S. Department of Agriculture \* Local Extension Councils cooperating.  
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.  
If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact Extension.





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**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

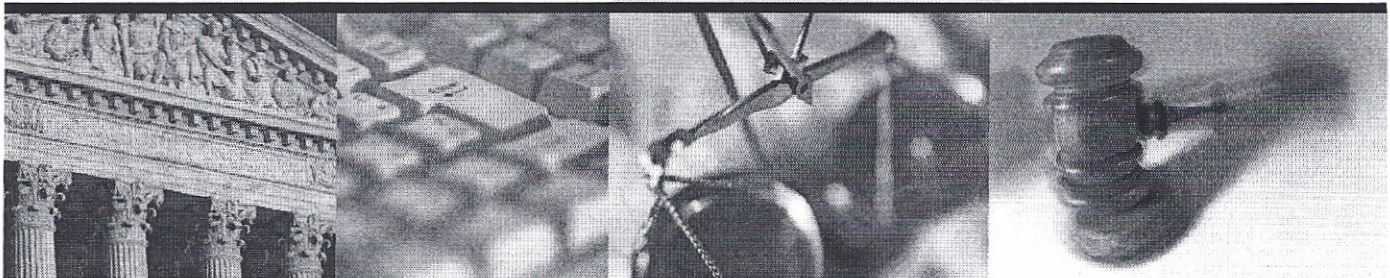
**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**County** \_\_\_\_\_ **Position** \_\_\_\_\_



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# Grantline

A resource to assist county officials in locating federal, state and foundation grants available to enhance Illinois communities.



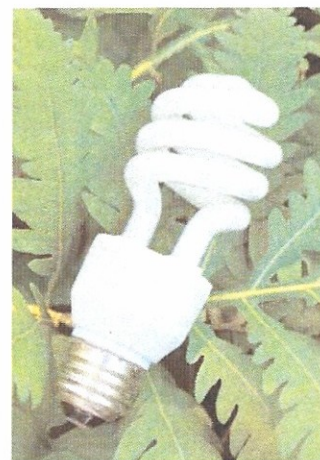
A member service of the Illinois Association of County Board Members

August 2009

## Counties encouraged to have planning strategy in place for application of EECBG program

Passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and the issuance of guidance regarding Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has generated a tremendous amount of interest in energy projects across Illinois. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) plans to use the Illinois Association of Regional Councils (ILARC) and their member regional planning commissions to administer the EECBG block grants to small communities (<35,000). Therefore, it is expected that the counties will oversee projects in those communities, in addition to other projects.

Illinois will provide funding to local governments that are not eligible for direct formula grants through a competitive process administered by regional planning agencies. DCEO will develop guidelines and program requirements and determine regional allocations. ILARC will award sub-grants to the approximately 25 regional planning agencies who will in turn administer an RFP or equivalent process to select projects proposed by communities within their respective regions that meet the goals of the EECBG program.



### Eligible Activities include the following:

- A. Energy efficiency and conservation strategy** – Up to 10% of the block grant funds may be used to fund consultant services to assist communities in developing a sustainable energy efficiency strategy and to identify viable projects and programs to implement that strategy.
- B. Residential and commercial building energy audits** – Communities may provide funding for audits for its residents, businesses and government facilities, but will be encouraged not to duplicate services that may already be offered by the State or utilities.
- C. Energy efficiency retrofits in buildings and facilities** – Funds can be used both for energy efficiency programs and/or projects. Communities may offer incentives to residences, businesses, and nonprofit organizations for energy efficiency measures in buildings. Or they may fund energy retrofit projects in municipal, school, or other local public facilities. Incentives may be in the form of grants, rebates, or revolving or low-interest loans. Projects that are eligible for funding from the Energy Efficiency Portfolio, State Energy Program, or other state or utility program will be expected to first apply for funding from those programs. The EECBG funds may be used to match funding from these other sources if needed to make a project viable, but the combined incentives should not exceed 75% of project costs. Applicants are encouraged to use Energy Performance Contracting as a mechanism for financing any additional costs of energy efficiency retrofits or to participate in utility on-bill financing programs.
- D. Transportation energy efficiency** – Applicants may use funds to encourage purchase of hybrid vehicles for local government or school fleet vehicles. The rebate or grant shall not exceed \$5,000 for each vehicle purchased. Other transportation projects may be funded, if sufficient justification is provided that the project is cost-effective (in \$/energy saved) and that Block Grants funds are a crucial element in making a particular project possible. No proposals will be accepted for transportation projects where the majority of funding comes from the EECBG.
- E. Building Code Development and Enforcement** – Applicants may use Block Grant funds to develop a new or revise an existing building energy efficiency code consistent with the requirements of ARRA. They may also use funds to support enforcement activities, including training enforcement officials or the local building industry in the requirements of the applicable model code.

*continued on page 2*





## EECBG Grants *continued*

### F. Source reduction, recycling and recycled content procurement –

Recycling-related projects must lead to documented energy savings to be eligible for funding. Applicants will be required to take advantage of SEP or existing recycling programs offered by DCEO, before using Block Grant funds for such recycling-related projects.

### G. Traffic signals and street lights –

Communities may use Block Grants funds to replace traffic signals or street lights with energy efficient lighting technologies, such as LED or other technology of equal or greater energy efficiency (such as induction lighting). Traffic signals are an eligible EEP measure and, therefore, EECBG funds should only be used if additional funds are needed to make a project viable or if the community is not eligible for EEP funding. For LED street light projects, only pilot projects will be accepted unless the applicant can demonstrate that a larger project would be cost effective. Again the combined incentives should not exceed 75% of project costs.

### H. Government building renewable electricity –

Onsite renewable energy projects that generate electricity from solar, wind, fuel cells, or biomass are eligible for funding. Depending on the project, applicants should first take advantage of any rebates available from the state's Renewable Energy Resources Program (RERP) or grants available from SEP. Block Grants should only be used if necessary to make a project viable. Combined incentives should not exceed 75% of project costs.

More information will be made available in the coming months as the program guidelines and RFP/application process are developed. Questions? Contact Kelly Murray at 217-528-5331, e-mail [iacbm@msn.com](mailto:iacbm@msn.com) or your local regional planning agency.

## America's small businesses can recover with SBA's ARC loans

Lenders play a critical role in the health of the American economy, and are especially vital to small businesses. The U.S. Small Business Administration is implementing a special, temporary loan program to help struggling American small businesses while reducing their risk during these tough economic conditions.



Under authority provided in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (signed Feb. 17, 2009), SBA has designed a deferred-payment loan program to help small businesses make payments on existing debt. Section 506 of the Recovery Act authorized SBA to help viable small businesses make payments on existing small business debt. The America's Recovery Capital, or ARC Loan Program, is designed to give viable small businesses facing immediate financial hardship some temporary financial relief so they can keep their doors open, refocus and get their cash flow back on track. ARC loans are available through SBA-approved small business lenders and have been authorized through Sept. 30, 2010, or until the appropriated funds run out, whichever comes first. Non-SBA lenders can become ARC lenders. Contact your local SBA district office for information and training.

### Loan structure

- An ARC loan is a deferred-payment loan of up to \$35,000.
- ARC loans will be used to make up to six months of principal and interest payments on qualifying loans for existing viable for-profit small businesses in the United States.
- Disbursement period (up to six months) is followed by 12 months with no repayment of the ARC loan principal, followed by a repayment period of five years. SBA pays monthly interest to the bank.

### How lenders benefit

- Reduced Risk – 100 percent guaranty provides greater security and confidence to lend.
- Guaranteed Interest – SBA will pay monthly interest to the lender at reasonable rates throughout the term of the loan.
- Proceeds may be used to pay on mortgages, secured and unsecured loans, lines of credit and credit cards if the debt was used for eligible business purposes under the program.

### How the community benefits

- SBA loans help build and retain community businesses, create jobs and stimulate economic activity.

### How small business owners benefit

- ARC loans are interest-free to the borrower, have deferred payments for 12 months, and have no SBA fees associated with them.

For more information, visit [www.sba.gov/recovery](http://www.sba.gov/recovery).





## Deputy Agriculture Secretary announces \$6.25 million available in rural economic development grants

Deputy Agriculture Secretary Kathleen Merrigan announced that USDA is accepting applications for more than \$6.25 million in competitive grants under the Rural Community Development Initiative program administered by USDA Rural Development. These funds underscore the importance the Obama Administration places on helping rural business to develop the capacity to address critical housing, community and economic development needs.



To be eligible for the Rural Community Development Initiative, applicants must provide matching funds equal to the grant they receive. This leveraging requirement increases the impact of the funding received from USDA. Grant awards are contingent upon the recipient meeting the conditions of the grant award. Eligible applicants include public or private (including tribal) organizations at least three years in existence that have experience working with eligible recipients. Recipients can be private non-profit organizations, community-based housing and development organizations, low-income rural communities, or federally recognized tribes.

An example of a project that was previously funded under the Rural Community Development Initiative program includes the "Maine Keeping Seniors Home" program, which is managed by the Western Main Community Action Program. This program was recently renamed the SEE ME program, which stands for Safety, Security, Energy Efficiency for Maine Elders. SEE ME received \$261,475 in 2007 to help senior citizens live actively in their homes and participate in their communities longer that they might otherwise without this assistance. To date, more than 1,240 seniors have been helped by this program.

Another example of how this program helps rural communities can be seen in Fayette, Iowa, where Upper Iowa University is using Rural Community Development Initiative program funding to help recipients through the Fayette County Economic Development, a local nonprofit organization serving businesses in the cities of Fayette, Oelwein, and Maynard. Recipients will receive training to assist microenterprises with marketing and branding, use of technology, and long-term business planning and development. Plans also call for the establishment of an e-commerce center that will help showcase and market the region's strengths and assets.

The deadline to apply is Sept. 24, 2009. Applicants may visit [www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm) to obtain an application and program guidelines. Application information for electronic submissions can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Paper application packages are available from any USDA Rural Development state office. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/> for a listing of state offices.

## ARRA grants & deadlines

**Supplementary Discretionary Grants for a National Surface Transportation System**  
*National Appropriation:* \$1,500,000,000  
*Application Deadline:* September 12, 2009

Provides competitive grants to states, local governments, and transit agencies for surface transportation projects with national, metropolitan, or regional impact.

**Neighborhood Stabilization**  
*National Appropriation:* 2,000,000,000  
*Application Deadline:* September 1, 2009

Provides funding to help communities purchase and rehabilitate foreclosed homes.

**Alternative Fuel Vehicles**  
*National Appropriation:* 300,000,000  
*Round 2 Deadline:* September 30, 2009

Provides funding to the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy program for an existing Alternative Fueled Vehicles Pilot grant program.



The state's request for a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) disaster declaration has been granted for the following primary counties – Jackson and Williamson – and the contiguous counties of Franklin, Johnson, Perry, Pope, Randolph, Saline and Union.

On July 14, Governor Pat Quinn asked the SBA to make low-interest loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses in those two counties that suffered heavy damage from the May 8 severe storm. The filing deadline to return applications for property damage is September 14. The deadline to return economic injury applications is April 16, 2010.

Any individual or business needing additional information or wishing to apply for a loan should contact the SBA Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955.





## IDOT launches construction website to offer more transparency

The Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) new innovative website, the *Construction Zone Dashboard*, has gone live. The new website provides up to date information on currently active construction contracts, including those funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, after contract execution.



The public can search for contracts by location, IDOT District, or a contractor. The website provides a means for viewing the location of the contract on a map. It also provides information on the current status of the project as well as the location of the work, how far along the work is and an estimate of the completion date.

For more information on projects in your county, visit the new website, *Construction Zone Dashboard*, at [www.dot.il.gov/dashboardpublic](http://www.dot.il.gov/dashboardpublic). The user friendly website will be updated daily.

## Recovery Act reporting begins this week

Early registration for [www.federalreporting.gov](http://www.federalreporting.gov) began on Monday, August 17. All counties that have received a funding award notification are subject to the October 10 reporting deadline even if the funds have not been expended. Regardless, all counties anticipating the receipt of Recovery Act funds should register soon after the function becomes available. The White House Office of Management and Budget reports that 300-400 liaisons will be deployed among the state and local levels to assist with Recovery Act issues approximately in late September through mid-October.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has identified several resources counties may utilize to help navigate the reporting process and its requirements:

- Refer to the FAQs on [www.recovery.gov/?q=content/recipient-reporting](http://www.recovery.gov/?q=content/recipient-reporting) for questions answered by the White House Office of Management and Budget.
- Review the presentations from NACo's July 16 Recovery Act reporting Webinar at [www.naco.org/webinars](http://www.naco.org/webinars)
- Review the recordings from the reporting webinar series hosted by OMB from July 20-23. They can be found at [www.whitehouse.gov/recovery/webinartrainingmaterials](http://www.whitehouse.gov/recovery/webinartrainingmaterials).

## News Update

None of the \$25 million in federal stimulus money to be distributed among law enforcement agencies in Illinois will be going to any of the sheriff's offices in the state. According to Madison County Sheriff Robert Hertz and St. Clair County Sheriff Mearl Justus the criteria for receiving federal stimulus dollars is unclear. There were 378 applications in Illinois for law enforcement money and 50 of them were from sheriff's offices. Twenty-one (21) applications were approved and not one of them belonged to a sheriff's department, according to Sheriff Justus. The potential money in both St. Clair and Madison counties was going to be used to hire much needed officers since the economic downturn.

## Safe Routes to School grants awarded to communities

Governor Pat Quinn announced \$13.1 million in Safe Routes to School grants to schools and communities across the state. This 100 percent federally funded program is designed to enable and encourage children to walk and bike to school.

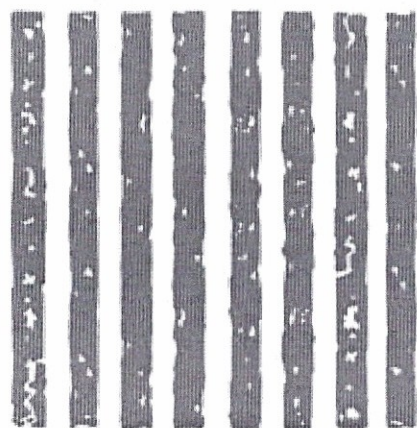


The 171 funded projects include projects encompassing everything from sidewalk repair to safety training for students and equipment for police and crossing guards. IDOT received almost 200 applications adding up to \$27.9 million in requests.

Safe Routes to School is a program of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. The complete list of grants in Illinois is available on the web at [www.dot.il.gov/saferoutes](http://www.dot.il.gov/saferoutes). At this time the timeframe for the next SRTS planning and funding cycle has not been set, as SRTS funding is pending reauthorization of the next federal transportation bill.



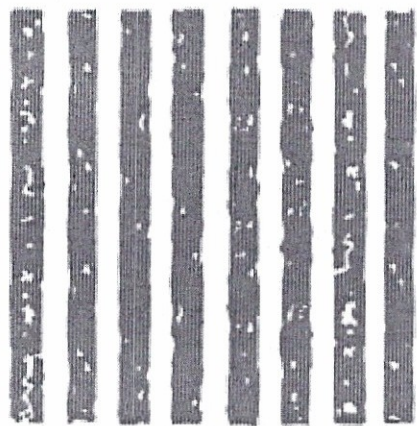
# CRY OUT AMERICA!



## WHAT IS CRY OUT AMERICA?

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## A Patriot Day Prayer Gathering

On September 11, 2009 our nation will pause to remember the greatest "wake-up" call in our generation, the terrorist attacks on 9/11/01. As part of Awakening America, a call is being issued for Christians across the nation to mark this significant day in our history with powerful prayer for America.

We are hoping for events in every one of the 3,141 counties in the United States, during the noon lunch hour on September 11. Christians will unite to cry out to God with focused prayer for their community, their friends and family, and for the spiritual condition of our nation. County Court-houses are being recommended as the gathering points.

### Get Involved - Cry Out Macoupin

For more information on prayer gatherings and planning for Cry Out America in our county contact:

Joyce Cunningham, County Coordinator  
cryoutmacoupin@gmail.com  
Home 217 854 2524  
www.awakeningamerica.us

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## WHAT IS A SPIRITUAL AWAKENING?

A spiritual awakening is an extraordinary move of God in which He revives His people, converts countless souls, and reverses the moral decline of a nation. At certain times biblically and historically God has suddenly come down during seasons of spiritual darkness, worked in unusual ways far beyond any explanation attributed to human effort, and has done so unexpectedly with the lone exception that His movement followed extraordinary corporate prayer and repentance. An example from American history would be the great revival of 1857 when God revived His people, reversed the moral decline of this nation, and an estimated 1 million souls from a population of 30 million were converted in one to two years.

### Video on You Tube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfS7ghuFDak>

### See the Resources Section of the [www.awakeningamerica.us](http://www.awakeningamerica.us)

?? Monthly Prayer Guide  
?? Frequently Asked Questions  
?? Posters and much more

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**News Release: Mon, 8/19/09**

**Subject:** Cry Out America  
Friday, September 11, 2009  
12:00 noon - 1:00 pm  
South Side of the  
Macoupin County Court House  
Carlinville, IL

**For More Information:**

Joyce Cunningham  
Macoupin County Coordinator  
Cry Out America  
217 854 2524  
[www.awakeningamerica.us](http://www.awakeningamerica.us)  
[cryoutmacoupin@gmail.com](mailto:cryoutmacoupin@gmail.com)

**Cry Out America Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Macoupin County Court House, Carlinville**

On Friday, September 11, 2009 our nation will pause to remember the greatest wake up call in our generation, the terrorist attack on September 11, 2001.

Please join your friends and neighbors as we gather at the south side of the Macoupin County Courthouse in Carlinville IL on Friday September 11, 2009 from noon till 1 pm. We will join pastors and citizens from all over Macoupin County to pray for our country and to sing patriotic songs. Over 3,000 counties the nation over are coming together on September 11, 2009 to pray for our country.

For more information about this second annual gathering please contact Joyce Cunningham 217 854 2524..

Additional resources and information on Cry Out America can be found on the Awakening America Alliance website <http://awakeningamerica.us/>

- # -



# ILLINOIS VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## A COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

### ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

223 South Macoupin Street P.O. Box 88

Gillespie, Illinois 62033-0088

Phone: (217) 839-4431

Fax: (217) 839-3647

**FRANK J. SCHWAB**

Executive Director

**LINDA DAVIDSON**

Board Chairperson

August 26, 2009

Macoupin County Board  
Andrew Manar, Chairman  
215 South East Street  
Carlinville, Illinois 62626

Dear Mr. Andy Manar:

I would like to advise you that Illinois Valley has been designated by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to operate the 2010 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) in Calhoun, Greene, Jersey and Macoupin counties. This program is designed to help eligible households meet their home energy costs.

This year the months of September and October have been set aside for accepting appointments of those individuals who are 60 years of age or older or are handicapped. In the month of September we will also accept applications for individuals who are 60 years of age or older or are handicapped who have had their energy supply disconnected. In October this service will be extended to all other eligible households. Illinois Valley will begin accepting calls for September and October appointments **September 1st, 2009.**

Starting **November 2nd**, Illinois Valley will begin accepting calls for November appointments for all other applicants.

Listed below are the telephone numbers for the four Illinois Valley county offices:

<b>CALHOUN</b>	<b>618-576-2218</b>	<b>GREENE</b>	<b>217-942-6824</b>
<b>JERSEY</b>	<b>618-498-9521</b>	<b>MACOUPIN</b>	<b>217-839-4431</b>

If you have any questions, please call the local Illinois Valley office.

Sincerely,

  
Frank J. Schwab  
Executive Director

405 Mound Street  
JERSEYVILLE, IL 62052  
Phone: 618-498-9521

200 C South County Road  
HARDIN, IL 62047  
Phone: 618-576-2218

320 Fifth Street  
CARROLLTON, IL 62016  
Phone: 217-942-6824



## Fairground Rental Schedule

2009

- September 5 - McDonald's Wedding Reception
- 6 - Circus sponsored by Carl Clambeck & Emma
- 13 - Emmanuel Baptist
- 19 - Admitted to the Anniversary Celebration
- 19 - Mac & B. Health Dept.
- 27 - Karmy Qualls Reception

October 10 - ABATE



August 18, 2009

Andy Manar, Chairman  
Macoupin County Board  
Macoupin County Courthouse  
Carlinville, IL. 62626

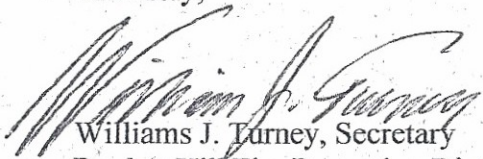
Dear Andy,

I wish to take this opportunity to let you and the Board know of my resignation from the Bunker Hill Fire Protection District Board of Trustees – Bunker Hill, IL. effective immediately.

Thank you and the rest of the Board for any and all help that has been given to us.

I leave knowing that your decision for my replacement is in good hands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Williams J. Turney", is written over the typed name.

Williams J. Turney, Secretary  
Bunker Hill Fire Protection District  
Bunker Hill, IL.



August 12, 2009

Andrew Manar, County Board Chm.  
Macoupin County  
215 S. East Street  
Carlinville, IL. 62690

Dear Mr. Manar,

March 3, 1969 I was given the opportunity to become a member of the Virden Fire Protection District. I feel being a volunteer fireman is a very honorable position. I have seen a lot of changes in my forty year's of service moving up the ranks and most recently serving as Trustee. Some of the changes have come with new equipment, new trucks, a new station in Thayer and the latest a new station in Virden. I tip my hat to the past Trustees' and Fire Chiefs for they laid the foundation for the outstanding department we have today.

I am closing my service with the fire department and resigning as Trustee effective September 9, 2009 meeting. Please accept this as my letter of resignation. I hold no hard feelings with anyone it has been an honor and pleasure serving Virden community in this capacity.

If I can be of any service to the Trustee's, the Fire Chief, or the Fire Fighters' it would be a privilege and I hope they would feel free to call me at any time. I will be ready to answer any call for help.



Willard W. Wilson

Cc: Tom Jenkins, President of Trustee-Virden Fire Protection District  
Rick Maguire, Treasurer of Trustee-Virden Fire Protection District  
Marty Jones, Fire Chief – Virden Fire Protection District  
Roger Rutherford, Attorney-Virden Fire Protection District  
Jeff Mortimer, CPA-Virden Fire Protection District



**MIKE MATHIS**  
Circuit Clerk of Macoupin County  
217-854-3211



MACOUPIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
POST OFFICE BOX 197  
CARLINVILLE, ILLINOIS 62626-0197  
FAX 217-854-7361



September 3, 2009

To: Macoupin County Board  
Ref: Surplus Equipment

Recently we updated the sound system in the Main Courtroom. The old equipment needs to be declared surplus and disposed of. This equipment is obsolete is not compatible with any current systems.

Thank you,



Mike Mathis  
Circuit Clerk