

## **Report: Tazewell County District 3 Municipal-Village-Township 2011 Visits (May 27, 2011)**

### **Goals:**

- To provide an opportunity to enable discussion between Tazewell County and the municipalities, villages and township on issues of mutual interest, including, but not limited to: transportation (roads & bridges), zoning & land use, law enforcement, tax assessment and soil erosion & control.
- To provide the opportunity to update the local officials on issues that affect their jurisdiction (issues vary by geographic region).
- To listen to the local officials' voice their issues and/or concerns they may have on these issues or any other issues they determine important to discuss.
- To allow our mutual constituencies to know that their public bodies are interested in discussing or working together on potential areas to improve efficiency, reduce cost, or share information.
- To determine if this is a worthwhile process that should be continued, and if so, at what frequency.

### **Participants:**

- Tazewell County District 3 Board Members (Carroll Imig, John Ackerman, Mel Stanford, Paul Hahn, Russ Crawford and Terry Hillegonds).
- Municipal & Village Officials: City Mayors or Village Presidents, City Councils or Village Boards, Municipal Clerks, Municipal Attorneys, Police Chiefs and Public Works Directors.
- Township Officials: Township Supervisors, Township Boards, Township Clerks, Township Tax Assessors and Township Road Commissioners.

**Visit Dates:** May 2 through May 23, 2011.

### **Discussion/Issues:**

- Tazewell County Road & Bridge Cooperation with Local governments
- Tazewell County Re-districting-Impact on Municipalities, Villages and Townships
- Tazewell County Wind Farm Zoning and New Possibilities
- Tazewell County Tax Assessment Cooperation and Timeliness
- Tazewell County Issues with Landfill – Status to Date
- Tazewell County Recorder of Deeds Office Elimination/Consolidation Ballet Initiative

### **Benefits/Successes:**

- **2009-2010**
  - Helped open communication and teamwork opportunity with the local governments.
  - Helped facilitate a land use/zoning request for Hopedale Township.
  - Helped facilitate Cooper Road project with Deer Creek Township.
  - Helped facilitate Farmdale Road project with Fondulac Township.
  - Helped facilitate a new water tower project with Deer Creek Township.
  - Helped facilitate a speed limit study for Fast Avenue in the Village of Mackinaw.
- **2011**
  - Continue to improve and increase open communication and teamwork opportunity.
  - Received and subsequently passed on compliments for Tazewell County Sup. of Assessments Twist on the SA Office role this year in the tax assessment process.
  - Received and passed on compliments for Tazewell County Engineer Anderson on cooperation and expertise this year of his highway staff on Farmdale Road project.
  - Continue to facilitate specific projects with the municipalities, villages and townships

**Visit Value:** When the public bodies were asked if there was value to continuing these visits, the response was positive and the requested frequency was on an annual basis.

**Lessons Learned:** We made two changes from 2010 to 2011

- One was to delegate/share the visits with various county board members to spread the representation opportunity, which worked well so we'll continue this practice.
- The other was to combine each of the smaller villages with the townships into one meeting. This inadvertently caused less interaction and involvement with some township officials and required some officials to attend an additional meeting. Therefore, 2012 will find us holding individual annual sessions with each public body.

**\*\*\* Press Release \*\*\***

**2011 Tazewell County Board District Three  
Township and Municipality Tour**

For the third year in a row, I will be participating in a series of meetings with the Municipality and Township leaders of District Three. I originally started these meetings as a way of completing my campaign promise to increase county government communication and transparency. I am happy to see that these meetings have grown into a wonderful outlet for inter-governmental cooperation and a way to fully understand the issues that are facing all parts of not only District Three but also Tazewell County.

This year fellow County Board Member Russ Crawford has asked if he could lead this year's tour of District Three. As such, you will find a letter from him below addressing the 2011 Tour dates. Please note that all of these meetings are open to the public and that your attendance and participation is welcomed and would be appreciated.

**John C. Ackerman**  
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Again this year members of the Tazewell County Board-District 3 will meet with the municipality and township officials in the district they represent to discuss topics of mutual interest and cooperation. District 3 includes the cities of East Peoria and Washington, the villages of Deer Creek, Mackinaw, Minier, Hopedale and Tremont, and the townships of Fondulac, Washington, Deer Creek, Mackinaw, Little Mackinaw, Hopedale and Tremont.

Previously each of these government bodies held individual sessions with the county board members. For improved efficiency, this year we will meet with the rural township and municipality together. We have also spread the representation for the county board-District 3 for these meetings out among different county board members this year.

Topics of discussion may vary by meeting to match various topics of interest and need by the governmental body but primarily be focused on potential areas of mutual interest. This includes areas of transportation, land use and zoning among others.

These meeting are open to the public and the public is welcome to attend. The county board members will listen to items of interest and, if appropriate, respond to questions. Please join us in your community. Following is the schedule for each community including the dates, times and locations.

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>Primary Rep:</b>	<b>Secondary Rep:</b>
Hopedale	May 2	6:30P	Village Hall	Carroll Imig	Paul Hahn
East Peoria	May 3	5:30P	City Hall	John Ackerman	Terry Hillegonds
Minier/L. Mackinaw	May 3	7:30P	Village Hall	Paul Hahn	Carroll Imig
Washington	May 9	6:30P	Five Points	Terry Hillegonds	Russ Crawford
Washington Twnshp	May 11	5:00P	Township Bldg	Terry Hillegonds	Mel Stanford
Tremont	May 16	7:00P	Village Hall	Carroll Imig	Paul Hahn
Deer Creek	May 17	7:00P	Village Hall	Mel Stanford	John Ackerman
Fondulac Twnshp	May 18	5:00P	Township Bldg	John Ackerman	Russ Crawford
Mackinaw	May 23	7:00P	Village Hall	Mel Stanford	Russ Crawford

Please contact me with any questions or comments.

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