

John C. Ackerman

Tazewell County Board

Continuing a Family Tradition of Community Service

October 29th, 2009

***** News Update *****

[Tazewell County Human Resources Position](#)

At last night's County Board Meeting, the recap of which you can read on the website under "County Board Agendas", we voted on what could be one of the most important decisions we have made in the last few years. And while the Behm Settlement vote got the most space in this morning's news, the vote on the new HR Manager is what I see as an monumental step in the right direction for Tazewell County's future.

For the past several years we have been plagued with a number of very embarrassing lawsuits and settlements. A vast majority of these could have been avoided had we had the assistance of a HR Manager and the expert assistance and guidance that type of position can provide. This position could easily pay for itself time and again if it helps in the avoidance of lawsuits of which we have faced for the past several years.

At the County Board Meeting last night, as I also did at the committee level as this issue came up through the ranks, I discussed the need for all of our leadership throughout the organization to utilize this individual once he/she is hired, in all staffing decisions and actions. Adding this position will do nothing to solve the potential risk to the county if all of the leadership does not utilize it during every staffing decision or action. It is my hope that all leadership members of the county will work with us on this important accomplishment.

While it may not have received as much attention as the Behm Settlement, this new HR Manager Position is the long needed answer to these reoccurring legal issues we have been facing. While we will have some lawsuits in the future, as you can never completely remove the risk, I do believe if properly utilized by all leadership members of the county as requested by the County Board, you will see a large reduction in the amount of these lawsuits. As always, I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve you on the Tazewell County Board and if I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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