

## **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.