

A Job Well Done

Kudos to the DuPage County Board, following the recent changes in the County Board Rules, approved at the February 27 DuPage County Board Meeting.

The Board voted to limit the Chairman's power by creating an internal set of checks and balances. The Chairman must now seek the advice and consent of the County Board, as well as a majority vote from the Board approving the Chairman's exercise of many of his powers, such as the power to appoint a Vice Chairman of the Board and the power to enter into intergovernmental agreements. The addition of Board oversight of the Chairman's powers will prevent any abuse of power by the Chairman.

The County Board made a fiscally responsible decision to eliminate stipends for Chairpersons and Vice-chairpersons of the Committees. County Board Members may also not receive additional compensation for serving on any outside boards, committees or task forces that relate to their position as a county board member. This was an extremely responsible decision, as the more than \$48000 salary the Board Members will receive this year is more than adequate.

The County also voted to alter the composition of the Finance Committee. Currently, there is disproportionate representation on the Committee as District 1 has no representation on the Committee, while Districts 3 and 6 each have three members serving on the Committee. When a district has no representation on this committee, it is questionable whether the District's interests are being fully and fairly represented fairly. Realizing the importance of the Committee, the Board now requires that two members from each district serve on the Finance Committee. With this change, each District will be equally represented in this Committee.

The citizens of DuPage County should applaud the changes in the County Board Rules which result in checks and balances, fiscal responsibility and equal representation.