REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

May 17, 2011

The Honorable,
The Board of Commissioners of Cook County

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Suffredin, Commissioners Beavers, Daley, Garcia, Gorman, Goslin, Murphy, Reyes, Silvestri, Sims and Tobolski (11)

Absent: Vice Chairman Fritchey, Commissioners Butler, Collins, Gainer, Schneider, and Steele (6)

Also Present: Andrea Gibson – Director of Budget and Management Services

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County met pursuant to notice on Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at the hour of 9:30 A.M. in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Your Committee has considered the following item and, upon adoption of this report, the recommendations are as follows:

312502 DIRECTOR OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES (APPOINTMENT). Transmitting a Communication dated May 3, 2011 from Toni Preckwinkle, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners:

Pursuant to Illinois State law, specifically 55 ILCS 5/3-14005, I hereby appoint **ANDREA GIBSON** to the position of Director of Budget and Management Services effective immediately.

Ms. Gibson holds a Bachelor of Arts from Macalester College and a Masters from the University of Chicago. Ms. Gibson has an extensive background in public service; working for the city of Chicago since 1995. Since 2002 Ms. Gibson has worked in the city of Chicago's Office of Budget and Management Service; serving as the 1st Deputy Budget Director since 2007.

Andrea Gibson is highly experienced in government finance and will be an asset to Cook County as Director of Budget and Management Services.

I submit this communication for your approval.

***Referred to the Committee on Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations on May 4, 2011.**

Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Goslin, moved the Approval of Communication No. 312502. The motion carried.

Chairman Suffredin asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speaker, in accordance with Cook County Code, Sec. 2-107(dd):

1. George Blakemore – Concerned Citizen

Commissioner Daley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Silvestri. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

YOUR COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING ACTION WITH REGARD TO THE MATTER NAMED HEREIN:

Communication Number 312502 Approve

Respectfully submitted,
Committee on Legislation and
Intergovernmental Relations

Larry Suffredin, Chairman

Attest:

Matthew B. DeLeon, Secretary

*An audio recording of this meeting is available in the Office of the Secretary to the Board, 118 North Clark Street, Room 567, Chicago, IL 60602.

Good Morning Chairman and members of the Committee,

I would like to start by thanking President Preckwinkle for providing me with the opportunity to be considered for Cook County's Budget Director.

I would like to provide you with an overview of my background. I worked for the City of Chicago for the past 16 years, 9 of which in the City's Office of Budget and Management, most recently serving as First Deputy Budget Director. The City of Chicago has a total budget of $6 Billion in local funds and up to $2 Billion in grant funds – I was responsible for managing the budget process, meeting budget commitments and coming up with budget solutions. I have a master's degree in public policy, which I earned from the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy.

The President has asked me to help continue to look for ways to control the cost of government during this difficult economic time. We must continue taking every possible step to reduce the cost of government, demand more from every employee, and limit the impact of the economic downturn on taxpayers by looking at every option for reducing spending and improving management. President Preckwinkle has placed a priority on fiscal responsibility and careful financial planning.

Specifically, the President and Chief Financial Officer Tariq Malhance have asked that I work to begin the budget process earlier in the year, better leverage the use of technology in the budget process, improve budget transparency, ensure input from various constituencies, monitor and control current year expenses to stay within the budget, and prepare creative and responsible budget solutions to improve the financial sustainability of the Cook County budget.

I look forward to working closely with the County Board Commissioners, the elected department heads and other County department leaders as well as Cook County residents to address the County's budget issues. I look forward to meeting with all of you to get your input on how to improve the budget process and to gather any ideas you may have on budget solutions that should be considered.

Thank you.