

NARRATIVE SUPPLEMENT

Case No. 2018-001

Original Report Date 04/12/2018

Supplement Date N/A

Time 1500 Hrs.

An allegation was brought to the attention of the McHenry County State's Attorney's (MCSA) Office about official misconduct conducted by Robert Miller while he was sitting as Algonquin Township Highway Commissioner. Specifically that Miller was involved in the inappropriate conduct while holding the office of Highway Commissioner for Algonquin Township. MCSA is investigating this matter at the request of the Illinois State Police.

On 04/12/2018, at approximately 1010 hours, I met with Charles Lutzow at the Algonquin Township Offices in Crystal Lake, Illinois. This meeting was held in Lutzow's office. The following is a summary and not a verbatim transcription of the conversation I had with Lutzow.

I began the interview by asking Lutzow for details about his employment with Algonquin Township. He stated he was a trustee 20 years ago for a term of two years. He stated he was then Township Clerk for four years (2013-2017) before being elected Township Supervisor seven months ago. I began the interview by asking Lutzow if he knew of any document or formal agreement regulating the use of the township credit card, specifically the one issued to Robert Miller. Lutzow stated he was not in office when the card was issued to Miller, but there was no formal document or agreement in place at this time. He stated if this does not exist today, it certainly did not exist 20 plus years ago or whenever the card was first issued to Miller. I asked Lutzow if he knew if there were any restrictions on the usage of the card. He stated today they are very careful, "People are told not even to but themselves a diet coke on that card", but that in the past the rules were not as strict. He stated there were two trains of thought. One was if the card was used for personal purposes, as long as it was reconciled it was considered to be allowed. He stated the other thought is that it should never be used in a personal manner at all. Lutzow stated it was up to Miller to determine which way he wanted to run things as the Road Commissioner. He stated the trustees would look over the bills, including the credit card bills each months. He stated several trustees, naming Larry Emery specifically, were very thorough and would question purchases all the time. Lutzow does not remember any specific items that were questioned but stated Miller always had an acceptable explanation for the spending that satisfied the board. He stated the board always deemed that the expenditures were legitimate expenses after hearing Miller's reasoning.

I asked Lutzow if Miller had a personal allowance of spending account and he stated he did not think so. He said there were things he was allowed to do, such as purchase gift cards to give to people if their mailbox was knocked down by a plow truck or something similar happened. He also stated that there was a travel budget for township business. Lutzow stated 20 years ago when he was a trustee he and his wife went on a trip to Washington DC for a conference. Lutzow stated it was common practice for members of the township to take their wives to the conferences and the township always paid for their plane ticket. Lutzow stated that changed several years ago when spending restrictions were imposed by Springfield and the township passed a resolution to follow those guidelines. Lutzow stated this occurred during the time he was sitting as clerk. Before that time it was common for wives to be taken along to conferences. I asked Lutzow to get me a copy of that resolution and he stated he would.

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Reporting Officer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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Lutzow stated 20 years ago nothing was written down, so you just did what you thought was correct. He remembers submitting reimbursements for his health club fees while in Washington DC. At that time he was told any expense that he incurred that was activity he would normally do at home, including working out, meals and transportation were covered. He submitted and accepted reimbursement. He stated he was not trying to do anything wrong or excessive, but rather was following the guidelines that were in place at that time. He stated the only real rule he remembers from back then was they would not pay for alcohol.

I then went on to ask about the winter shift differential for employees. Lutzow stated he did not think anyone was trying to hide anything by using miscellaneous pay, that was just how they coded stipend pay in the system. He stated Miller was responsible for the budget and as long as he did not go over budget, he was able to use the funds as he saw fit. I asked if that included giving a bonus or stipend to employees and he stated yes. He stated he thought employee compensation and retention were very important matters that were directly related to road district operations and would be deemed a legitimate use of township funds. Lutzow stated he never had any suspicions that Miller was doing anything incorrectly. He believes the allegations brought against Miller are politically motivated. Lutzow stated when you spend 20 years in politics, you make friends and you make enemies. Now that Miller is out of office, his enemies are trying to discredit him. Lutzow believes Miller was a good road commissioner and was responsible with his spending of township funds.

I thanked Lutzow for his time. The interview concluded at approximately 1130 hours.

End of report.