

**JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
McHenry County Administration Building  
667 Ware Road, Conference Room A  
Woodstock IL 60098**

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2005

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:28a.m. The following Public Health and Human Services Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Rick Klasen; Don Larson; Lyn Orphal; Anna May Miller; Barbara Wheeler and Sandra Salgado. Planning & Development Committee members present: Ann Gilman, Chairman; Virginia Peschke and Barbara Wheeler. Also present: Chairman Ken Koehler; Peter Austin, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty and Patti Nomm, Health Department; Jamie Rein, Assistant States Attorney; Sandy Lewis and Bob Lessor, Mental Health; Suzanne Ehardt, Planning & Development; Open Burning Forum Members; and the press.

Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Don Larson	Richard Klasen
Anna May Miller	Lyn Orphal
Sandra Salgado	Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES

Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado, to recommend approval of the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of November 18, 2005. The minutes were approved as presented with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATION

*Open Burning Forum:* A presentation was provided to the Public Health & Human Services Committee and Planning & Development Committee members by the Open Burning Forum of McHenry County. Committee members were informed of the current ordinance surrounding the burning of landscape waste in the County. There is allowable burning for campfires and bonfires (which require a permit) in the county. Burning violations are enforced on a complaint basis only. No one is allowed to burn rubbish in the county. Controlled burns for Fire Fighting Training, Prairie and Ecological Management and Disaster Open Burning Permits requires permits be obtained from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Planning & Development. There are additional restrictions by some of the Municipalities in the County. Recommendations from the Open Burning Forum included Ordinance Modification, Alternate Disposal Methods, Enforcement, Education and Financing. It was suggested that a Community Service Officer be hired to handle complaints. Alternate disposal methods included composting, mulching, township drop-off sites and commercial composting sites. Committee members noted that the most cost efficient method that could be enacted immediately would be through education as this requires less enforcement. Everyone agreed there is no perfect solution to the problem we will need to create more affordable methods of landscape waste pick up to get additional compliance. It was stated that it will take the coordinated efforts of the Planning & Development Department, the Health Department, Sheriff's Department, State's Attorney and Fire Protection Districts to improve enforcement in the County. Ms. Ehardt stated that one of the main issues includes the small fines that are imposed when an ordinance violator is brought to court. She noted that stiffer fines would help the repeat violators. They are currently fined from \$15-\$25 which violators feel the fines are worth it to burn. Chairman Gilman stated that fines for burning violators need to be increased immediately and requested this be put on her committee agenda for discussion at their next meeting. Committee members requested the Open Burning Forum continue to meet to discuss funding, education and enforcement for burning as well as determine what alternative methods would cost the County. It was suggested the Forum provide the power point presentation to the County Board. It was noted that it will take time and education for alternatives to burning in the County. Committee members thanked the Forum Members for their hard work. The Planning and Development committee adjourned at 9:50a.m.

OLD BUSINESS

*Noise Ordinance:* Chairman Peschke stated she continues to receive complaints on this issue and a community service officer could be used for this issue as well.

NEW BUSINESS

*Mental Health Board Appointment:* Committee members were informed that there are two openings on the board coming up on the Mental Health Board. One person resigned from the board and would not be reapplying for the position. Chairman Peschke informed committee members that two applications have been received for the Mental Health Board appointment. Chairman Bev Thomas has reapplied for appointment to the board and the other applicant is an employee at Pioneer Center, which the committee felt would be a conflict of interest and therefore disqualified

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her for appointment to the board. Mr. Larson stated the need to reappoint Ms. Thomas as she is the Chairman of the Mental Health Board. Committee members stated that appointments traditionally serve until replaced. The Mental Health Board Statute states that appointments serve 6 years and the term begins at the first of the year in which they are appointed. It was noted that we are waiting for a States Attorney's opinion regarding this issue. Ms. Orphal stated that the appointments should be postponed until we receive adequate applications. She noted that we should do interviews at the same time for both openings. Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend the appointments be postponed until additional applications have been received and interviews could be held for the appointments to the Mental Health Board. The motion carried on a roll call vote with four ayes (Orphal, Wheeler, Klasen, Salgado) and three nays (Larson, Miller, Peschke)

*Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation to the Dental Care Clinic Fund for FY04/05 budget:* Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation to the Dental Care Clinic Fund for FY04/05 budget. Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller to recommend approval of the Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation to the Dental Care Clinic Fund for FY04/05 budget. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

*Ordinance to amend Article IV of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance:* Committee members reviewed an Ordinance to amend Article IV of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance. Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend approval of the above Ordinance as presented. It was noted that it has been determined that select adjustments in the fees collected are necessary to support the cost of providing services. Committee members noted concern regarding the increase in fees for the not-for-profit agencies. Mr. McNulty stated that these events are of the highest concern because they are temporary events that are not usually handled by trained personnel. Mr. McNulty stated that staff spends a lot of time with personnel on these events and there is a cost to the department to provide these services. Mr. Klasen called the question. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

*Ordinance to amend Article X of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance:* Committee members reviewed an Ordinance to amend Article X of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance. This section involves the enforcement of Article X, which is for Sewage Treatment and Disposal. It was noted that an increase has not been done for this purpose for three or four years. Ms. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Larson to recommend approval of the above Ordinance amendments as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

*Ordinance to amend Article XVII of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance:* Mr. McNulty stated this has been pulled because of the ongoing discussion and recommendations of the Vicious Dog Task Force. This will be brought back to committee at a later date.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

#### REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Mr. McNulty stated that Solid Waste Education is done in the schools and the burning issue could be included with this program. He noted that construction waste could be included as well. He stated that responsible animal ownership education will be a part of the discussion of the re-enacted Board of Health Advisory

*WIB:* Chairman Peschke reported that their annual conference will again be held in Washington. She attended this conference last year but will be unable to attend this year.

*HRC:* The next HRC meeting is scheduled in February.

*Board of Health:* The next Board of Health meeting will be on Monday December 12, 2005 in Conference Room A of the Administration Building.

*Mental Health Board:* The Mental Health Board is in the process of implementing their multi-million dollar grant. Because of the requirements of the grant, additional personnel will be hired. This may cause the need to rent/lease additional space to house these new employees. He noted that the administrative staff needs to be housed together. The Building Ground Committee has been reinstated to discuss the needs of the Mental Health board. He informed committee members that there is a local match requirement of the grant. He stated a Resolution for an emergency appropriation will be brought forward in January.

*Open Burning Forum:* See above.

*Senior Services Grant Commission:* Mr. Labaj requested direction regarding the UHLICH Children's Advantage Network. He reminded committee members that this network received a grant to provide home services for seniors. They have requested permission to extend their grant to December 31, 2005. He noted that they are trying to find

alternate services for the 9 families they service as they will not be providing this service in FY2006. The consensus of the committee was to allow the extension.

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Committee members were reminded that the Dangerous and Vicious Dog Task Force will meet Monday at 3:30p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation to the Dental Care Clinic Fund for FY04/05 budget  
Ordinance to amend Article IV of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance  
Ordinance to amend Article X of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance

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