

MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
McHenry County Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock, IL 60098

MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2005

Chairman Kate called the Management Services Committee meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. The following members present: Ann Kate, Chairman; Tina Hill; Marc Munaretto; Pete Merkel and Rick Klasen. Jim Heisler and Mary Lou Zierer were absent. Also in attendance; Rick Bernotas, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Tom Sullivan, Information Technology; John Hadley, Building Operations; Cathy Link, Acting Purchasing Director; Tom Carroll and Michelle Courier, State's Attorney; and the press.

Ann Kate, Chairman	
Tina Hill	Jim Heisler
Rick Klasen	Pete Merkel
Marc Munaretto	Mary Lou Zierer

MINUTE APPROVAL

Mr. Munaretto made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen, to approve the Management Services Committee minutes of January 11, 2005 as presented. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Frank Gosser, Mental Health Board Attorney, joined committee members to notify them that the Mental Health Board passed a Mental Health Board Ethics Ordinance at their last meeting. He stated that he picked up a copy of the County's Ordinance for review. He noted that the Mental Health Board ordinance follows the State's suggested Ordinance, but did not appoint any Ethics Officer or Commission. He noted that the Board wanted to retain the spirit of cooperation between the County and the Mental Health Board. Committee members questioned why the Mental Health Board needs a separate Ordinance from the County since the Mental Health Board is a County Government Entity. They felt that this creates a duplication of services. Mr. Gosser noted that if an employee in the Mental Health Department has an ethics issue, it would be up to the Mental Health Board to handle that complaint and that is why they adopted their own ordinance. Chairman Kate noted that the County followed the recommendations of the Attorney General and although it is recommended each entity adopts an ordinance it is purely optional. Mr. Gosser noted that the Mental Health Board was bringing the board into conformity with State Law.

NEW BUSINESS

Ethics Commission Appointments: Committee members reviewed the Ethic Commission Appointments. It was noted that the Commission consists of 5 members that are appointed by the McHenry County Board Chairman with the approval of the County Board. These appointments will be presented at the County Board meeting on February 1st. A list of the commission members will be placed in the County Board Members mail boxes.

Ordinance Amending the Ethics Ordinance: Committee members reviewed an Ordinance Amending the Ethics Ordinance. Mr. Carroll and Ms. Courier, from the State's Attorney's office joined committee members to discuss proposed changes to the Ordinance. Mr. Carroll has been appointed as the Ethics advisor for McHenry County. Changes to the Ordinance included clarification of the definition of an employee and procedure suggestions. Committee members noted that some of the changes included references to "Articles" and the Ordinance does not have "Articles", it has sections. Timelines for procedures were discussed as the current ordinance has impractical timelines. Mr. Gosser entered into the discussion to address concerns regarding the Mental Health Board Employees. He noted that the State Statute stated that every government entity shall create this ordinance. Mr. Carroll noted that this ordinance encompasses various groups of employees, not just the Mental Health Board Employees and anyone who receives a County paycheck would be covered under this ordinance. Mr. Gosser noted that one of the reasons the Mental Health Board adopted its own ordinance was because one of the commissioners may have a conflict with the County. After further discussion, Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen to recommend approval of the above Ordinance with changes as discussed. The motion carried with five ayes (Merkel, Hill, Klasen, Munaretto, Kate) Committee members noted that this ordinance is better than the previous version and there are a few problems that need to be address. One issue is whether the MCCD, 708 Board, Health Department/Board, etc. are McHenry County Employees and are they a unit of government or an agency.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Sullivan reported that the next Cable Commission meeting will take place on February 16th for those interested in attending. It was noted that Comcast is reviewed proposed changes but there continues to be some contentious issues. Mr. Sullivan noted that he is still working to find out issues previously discussed regarding the tower. Committee members questioned whether any projected use of the tower should derive revenue, would it prohibit the issuance of bonds. This could hurt us in the long run.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Merkel to go into executive session at 9:05 a.m. to discuss personnel. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Kate, Klasen, Merkel, Munaretto, Hill)

Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen to return to regular session at 9:15a.m. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Kate, Klasen, Merkel, Munaretto, Hill)

MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE

January 25, 2005

Page 2

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:16a.m. on a motion by Ms. Hill seconded by Mr. Merkel, with all members present voting aye.

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION:

Recommend approval of Ordinance Amending Ethics Ordinance

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