

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2005

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:15a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Rick Klasen; Anna May Miller; Sandra Salgado, Lyn Orphal; Don Larson and Barbara Wheeler. Also present: Chairman Ken Koehler; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty, Health Department; Cindy Bethke, Helping Paws; Cecilia Brown, Animal Outreach; and the press.

Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Richard Klasen	Don Larson
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 January 28, 2005. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Cindy Bethke, Helping Paws, addressed committee as a volunteer at Animal Control. She requested that the running of the Animal Control facility be placed under the control of the Public Health & Human Services Committee. She noted concern that Animal Control is transferring adoptable cats to Helping Paws, when there is space available within the Animal Control facility to house these animals. She noted that the agreement was to accept transfers of animals when the facility was full. She stated these animals are being transferred when Animal Control feels the animals are not adoptable. She presented committee members with three cats that were transferred to Helping Paws to show they are adoptable cats and should not have been forwarded to Helping Paws. She noted disappointment in the lack of partnership with Animal Control. She informed committee members she was concerned that Animal Control was transferring all cats to their facility. Ms. Cecilia Brown, Animal Outreach stated she has been a volunteer at Animal Control as well, and she informed committee members that she was not treated well as a volunteer. She noted a lack of positive teamwork, and felt only hostility and negativity within the department. She states that no one has paid attention to what is actually going on at the facility and requested the committee find better solutions to what is currently being done at the facility.

PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

Noise Ordinance: Chairman Peschke noted that she has not received any information back from the State's Attorneys office and this will be discussed at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Human Relations Council: Committee members were informed that a budget was set up in 2004 for the Human Relations Council. The funds were not spent during 2004 and this budget was not forwarded in 2005. A bill for brochures for the Human Relations Council was received and needed to be paid. Mr. Sarbaugh questioned whether the same budget for the HRC should be created in 2005 and asked for directions from committee members. Committee members requested Mr. Sarbaugh create a FY05 budget for the Human Relations Council, with a Resolution and bring it forward to the Committee for approval at the next committee meeting.

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation and budget line item transfer for additional teen reach funding/garden quarter for the Mental Health Board's FY05 budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation and budget line item transfer for additional teen reach funding/garden quarter for the Mental Health Board's FY05 budget. Mr. Larson made a motion seconded by Ms. Wheeler to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. Committee members questioned why additional budget line item transfers were being requested when only an additional \$1,000 was being received. Mr. Sarbaugh noted that he had not seen this Resolution and did not review this prior to the committee meeting and was unable to comment on this Resolution. Committee members questioned why there was no one available from Mental Health to answer questions on this Resolution. Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler to recommend this Resolution be postponed until clarification of this Resolution is received. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the Health Departments FY04/05 budget – Veterinarian Services: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the Health Departments FY04/05 budget – Veterinarian Services. The Department of Health wishes to contract with a Veterinarian to fill the Animal Control Administrator position. This would be a contractual Veterinarian and is being budgeted for nine months. Mr. McNulty noted that this budget may need to be adjusted in the future as he is not sure at this time whether a Veterinarian could be found for this price. Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

NEW BUSINESS CON'T

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY04/05 budget to accept a donation from Dominick's Finer Foods: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation to the Health Departments FY04/05 budget to accept a donation from Dominick's Finer Foods. Mr. McNulty noted this is a wonderful gift that is received. It is the intent of the donors that this money be utilized to increase breast cancer outreach/education, screenings and support services for McHenry County Residents. Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Ordinance to amend Article XVII of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance: Committee members reviewed amendments being made to Article XVII of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance. Mr. McNulty stated these changes are being made to bring our codes up to State standards. The State's Attorney has reviewed the changes. Mr. Klasen noted that the Advisory Board did a nice job to get this Ordinance brought up to date. These changes will be placed on 30 day review. Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Ms. Orphal to recommend approval of the above Amendments to Article XVII of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Gypsy Moth Program – 2005: Mr. Labaj joined committee members for a discussion regarding the 2005 Gypsy Moth program. He noted that meetings held with the State have revealed that McHenry County will not be included in their 2005 spraying program. Because of high trap counts and an increase to the infested areas the State is concentrating the spray program to the west of the County. They will not allow us to piggy back onto their contract this year. McHenry County is not quarantined at this time. Committee members were informed that quarantining an area is up to the Federal Government, not the State. Mr. Labaj noted that informational meetings will be scheduled at MCC regarding how to handle this issue and provide state expertise regarding what homeowners could do to help. It was noted that Wisconsin previously did not participate in the program and have now decided to begin spraying for Gypsy Moths. Chairman Koehler noted concern stating this is a serious economic issue for Nursery's in the area. He noted that it would be wrong if the County did not take a leading role to spearhead this program. He noted that area municipalities and townships should join the County in providing this service in the area. Mr. Labaj noted that the State Contract is very complex and he doesn't know if we would have the expertise to accomplish this. Committee members questioned what the liability to the County would be to do this program. The State had assumed the liability in the past. The liability costs would have to be shared among everyone in the program. It was noted that there is a small window frame in which the spraying could be completed. Committee members requested Mr. Labaj check into the liability to the county, request help from our legislators and check into the possibility of having retired or laid off State employees help with the expertise needed to complete this program.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

WIB: Chairman Peschke reported she will be attending a WIB seminar the first week in March in Washington.

HRC: The HRC brochure is available on the internet for those interested.

Board of Health: None

Mental Health Board: Mr. Larson reported that the Mental Health Board has placed on their agenda the search for a new executive director.

Open Burning Forum: Chairman Peschke informed committee members that at the last meeting members for Winnebago County joined the forum for a discussion regarding their leaf pick up program. Their Highway department picks up the leaves in the unincorporated areas and burning is enforced by the Sheriff's Department. They issue \$100 tickets to offenders. General funds were used for the purchase of leaf pickup equipment.

Mr. Klasen noted concern regarding the ongoing issues at Animal Control. He noted that he is tired of receiving the same complaints and this issue should be taken care of as soon as possible. It was noted that complaints should be forwarded to the Ad Hoc Committee for discussion. He noted concern that the supervisor of the facility was sharing complaints with staff and felt this very unprofessional.

EXECUTIVE SESSION -none

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Approve a Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the Health Departments FY04/05 budget – Veterinarian Services

Approve Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation to the Health Departments FY04/05 budget to accept a donation from Dominick's Finer Foods

Recommend approval of Ordinance to amend Article XVII of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance to be placed on 30 day review