

**MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 01, 2005**

Chairman of the Board – Kenneth D. Koehler (District 2)

District 1 Donald R. Brewer Marc Munaretto Anna May Miller Dan Shea	District 2 Marie M. Chmiel James Heisler Kenneth Koehler Lyn Orphal	District 3 Ed Dvorak Ann Kate Nick Provenzano Barbara Wheeler
District 4 Sue Draffkorn John Hammerand Pete Merkel Sandra Fay Salgado	District 5 John Jung Jr. Perry Moy Virginia Peschke Tina Hill	District 6 Ann Gilman Richard Klasen Don Larson Mary Lou Zierer

The Honorable County Board of McHenry County, Illinois met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 01, 2005.

Chairman Koehler called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by County Clerk Katherine C. Schultz with Members of the Board, department heads and visitors participating. Mr. Shea gave the invocation/personal remarks.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by County Clerk Katherine C. Schultz. The following members responded: Brewer, Chmiel, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Gilman, Hammerand, Hill, Kate, Klasen, Larson, Merkel, Miller, Moy, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Provenzano, Salgado, Shea, Wheeler, Zierer and Koehler. Absent: Heisler and Jung. Chairman Koehler declared a quorum present with twenty-two (22) members responding.

MINUTES

Mr. Shea made a motion seconded by Mr. Dvorak to approve County Board Regular Session minutes from October 18, 2005. Chairman Koehler asked if there were any changes or corrections. Noting none, Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it the motion is passed.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Koehler thanked Mr. Jung for chairing the last meeting while he was out of town. He also thanked Mr. Sarbaugh and Mr. Munaretto for putting on the seminar regarding the budget cycle. There were eleven board members in attendance and it was a good learning experience. He would like to have another presentation at some point for those members who could not attend.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

McHenry County Reduce, Re-use and Recycle Awards

Jean Niemann of Planning and Development came forward along with Chairman Koehler to present the awards.

There were 10 certificates being awarded having met the seven criteria required. Those being awarded were: Maplewood School, North Elementary School, Northwood Middle School, Pioneer Center, McHenry County Defenders, Friends of the Nippersink Library, Riverwood School.

Certificates of Excellence in recycling were given to the Village of Algonquin, McHenry County College and GLS Corporation.

All were commended for their dedication to recycling.

Eagle Scout Resolution

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Ms. Orphal to approve the following Eagle Scout recognition:

Jared Sanches of Troop 167 in Huntley

Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, the motion is passed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plant

Ms. Gilman explained a little about this and introduced Karen of Kabbes Engineering and Tim Hartnett of Smith Engineering. Mr. Hartnett explained how they have come up with the plan that they have. After several meetings with NIPC it was the recommendation of the Illinois EPA and NIPC to form a Technical Advisory Committee to get all of the regulatory agencies and organizations impacted to work on this together. He said they were one of the first communities to prepare an Anti-Degradation Study in the State of Illinois proving that this wastewater treatment plant expansion would not negatively impact one of the few Class A streams in Illinois, the Nippersink Creek. After finishing the study the IL EPA asked that we consider water re-use. Water re-use is just re-using the water that has been fully treated that would be discharged into the Nippersink Creek and using it for landscaping irrigation and non-potable water uses. The Village of Richmond has completed the first Ordinance in the State of Illinois that the IL EPA has approved regarding this issue.

Many board members asked questions about the re-use of treated water and what goes back into the creek. Mr. Hartnett explained the process. It was asked why there was a restriction in putting the water back into playground areas when the water can be sent back down to the creek where children also play. Karen said it has been discussed at length with the EPA and it was their concerns that have placed these restrictions on this. It was asked if firefighters could use the water, and the answer was yes. Mr. Hartnett said that the high school was looking into using this water for watering their fields and their open space practice fields. It was asked if there is grant money available for this type of thing. Karen said not that she is aware of at this time. Ms. Gilman said this was an excellent presentation and that perhaps we could get this on the agenda to be presented to MCCOG. Chairman Koehler thought that was a good idea then all of the municipalities will have an opportunity to take a look at this. Noting no other questions, Chairman Koehler thanked both participants for this presentation.

McHenry County Farmland Preservation Alliance

Dave Brandt of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and a member of the McHenry County Farmland Preservation Alliance came forward to give this presentation. Mr. Brandt explained that Agriculture is a thriving business in McHenry County. He defined agriculture as surface water quality and groundwater quality. Profiles that farmers use every year is on property that has not been bull dozed and scraped and filled and there is better groundwater and infiltration rates. Agricultural land is open vistas not open space. A power point was shown of local farms. Mr. Brandt went on to describe how local farmers bring in people from other areas, whether its orchards, pumpkin patches, farm markets or Christmas trees. He stated that about 60% of the county is still some kind of an agricultural production. There was \$91.5 million dollars in sales of live stock and crops in McHenry County; \$89 million dollars in expenses; that means the average size of a farm is about 268 acres but it comes out to about \$105,000 in average farm sales. Mr. Brandt said the alliance is recommending land use decisions that minimize the conflict of agriculture and the purchase of development rights. There is an ordinance in the Planning and Development Committee regarding the purchase of development rights so that property stays agriculture and private ownership.

Questions were asked about the property that the McHenry County Conservation District owns. It was noted that the Conservation District is the largest single owner of farm land in the county. Comments were made about the people who are generational farmers who would like to get out of farming because it is not as profitable as they would like. It was suggested that the power to make the decision to sell off agricultural land should be that of the family and government should not be involved in the decision making. Ms. Gilman stated that at a Farm Bureau meeting it was said that they did not want restrictions on the ability of a farmer to sell his property. Chairman Koehler thanked Mr. Brandt for his presentation.

METRA 2006 Budget Presentation

Michael Smith, a board member of Metra and Mayor of New Lenox is here to make this presentation as well as Rick Mack, President of the Village of Ringwood. Mr. Smith said everyone should have received a synopsis of the Metra budget for this next year as well as other handout material. The variables that were over budget were because of fuel and security costs. Homeland Security funds Metra about \$5 million dollars which is not much in the grand scheme of the costs of security. Metra is suggesting a 5% fare increase which will minimally offset the expenses. One thing that Mr. Smith said he was very excited about is the Starline. It is a suburban to suburban commuter rail line and will be the first in the nation. Board Members asked about the Crystal Lake station and how the new Pingree station was going. Mr. Smith said the Crystal Lake station should be finished around Thanksgiving and that the Pingree station has been received very well. Mr. Smith commented about upgrades that are being done on the local rail lines and other future developments of train stations within the county, noting that they are in the works but could be years in the making. Mr. Smith said there will be a public hearing at the Village Hall in Woodstock this Thursday. Chairman Koehler thanked Mr. Smith for his presentation today.

PLATS
None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Koehler explained the rules of public participation. The following people spoke:

Linnea Kooistra of Woodstock	for	farmland preservation
Michele Aavang of Woodstock	for	farmland preservation
Lisa Haderlein of Harvard	for	farmland preservation
Lenor Beyer-Clow of Woodstock	for	farmland preservation
Mary McCann of Woodstock	for	farmland preservation

Noting no other persons wishing to speak, Chairman Koehler closed this part of the meeting.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution proclaiming November 15, 2005 as America Recycles Day

Ms. Gilman made a motion seconded by Ms. Wheeler to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, the motion is passed.

Resolution authorizing adoption of the McHenry County Legislative Policy Statement

Mr. Munaretto made a motion seconded by Mr. Shea to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, the motion is passed.

APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Peschke made a motion seconded by Mr. Klasen to approve the following Appointments:

Human Relations Council
Holly Eddy, Kathleen Seith, Sue Stelford, Walter Liedtke
Terms to expire 09/01/2009

Community Development Block Grant Commission (CDBG)
Ellen Hamilton
Term to expire 07/31/2007

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Chmiel, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Gilman, Hammerand, Hill, Kate, Klasen, Larson, Merkel, Miller, Moy, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Salgado, Shea, Wheeler and Koehler. Absent: Brewer, Heisler, Jung, Provenzano and Zierer. The vote being nineteen (19) aye votes noting five (5) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if anyone wished to remove an item from the agenda.

Ms. Peschke asked to remove #13.2 G(1) and to abstain from voting.

Ms. Gilman made a motion seconded by Mr. Hammerand to approve the Routine Consent Agenda with one item removed.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Chmiel, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Gilman, Hammerand, Hill, Kate, Klasen, Larson, Merkel, Miller, Moy, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Salgado, Shea, Wheeler and Koehler. Absent: Brewer, Heisler, Jung, Provenzano and Zierer. The vote being nineteen (19) aye votes noting five (5) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

13.2 G(1) Resolution authorizing adoption of the Community Development Block Grant Funding allocations for program year 2006.

Ms. Gilman made a motion seconded by Ms. Kate to approve the above-named resolution.

Ms. Salgado asked to abstain from voting as she is an employee of one of the recipients of the funds. Ms. Peschke also asked to abstain from voting.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Chmiel, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Gilman, Hammerand, Hill, Kate, Klasen, Larson, Merkel, Miller, Moy, Munaretto, Orphal, Shea, Wheeler and Koehler. Absent: Brewer, Heisler, Jung, Provenzano and Zierer. Abstain: Peschke and Salgado. The vote being seventeen (17) aye votes, two (2) abstentions noting five (5) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

ORDINANCES

For Review:

Ordinance to amend the Liquor Control and Liquor Licensing Ordinance for the County of McHenry, Illinois

Mr. Hammerand explained the changes being made to this ordinance, mainly defining the word premise.

Ordinance authorizing an amendment to Article XVII of the McHenry County Public Health Ordinance

Ms. Peschke explained the change being made to this ordinance, basically reversing the change that was made in June.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Austin told the board that when the CALF meeting was held last week there was agreement that the board would benefit from a quick review of the strategic plan. A copy was put on each desk for review. Also, he said he had a good meeting with the new Mental Health Director Sandy Lewis and is quite eager to get started on work in McHenry County. Lastly, our lobbyist from the Ferguson Group will be in McHenry County two weeks from today.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Peschke said that when she came on the board in 1990 there were twenty-four board members as there is now, and with the diversity of issues that the board dealt with today and the good thoughts that come from the members, for those people who feel that the number of board members should be cut, she thinks that would be a mistake because twenty-four members are better than one.

Mr. Merkel asked if we could get clarification on voting for CDBG. Being on other boards that might get funds from the CDBG it would be good to clarify if we are able to vote. Chairman Koehler said the State's Attorneys office will get clarification on this. Ms. Orphal said she was told that if you don't financially gain from it yourself it is o.k. to vote.

Ms. Hill said the Christmas dinner plans are well under way. The cost will be \$10 a head.

Ms. Ehardt said with regard to the CDBG Fund and the conflicts, it is more federally regulated in terms of the conflict and that is why she needed to abstain.

Mr. Munaretto said on November 15th the MCEDC will be hosting their legislative event on behalf of the County Board at the American Community Bank in Woodstock so he encouraged everyone to attend.

Ms. Kate said that at the Management Services meeting next Tuesday they will have a very preliminary discussion of the Animal Control facility so if anyone would like to attend it will be at 8:10 a.m.

Chairman Koehler said he was at the opening of Pleasant Valley, the new conservation district, on Sunday and there were at least 2,000 people who attended throughout the day. It is a new site with a lot of history for McHenry County and is 1,600 plus acres. He encouraged board members to go out to visit.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Klasen made a motion seconded by Ms. Kate to adjourn at 11:35 a.m. Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 15th day of November, A.D., 2005.

S/ Kenneth D. Koehler
Kenneth D. Koehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

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ATTEST:

S/ Katherine C. Schultz
Katherine C. Schultz, County Clerk