

**CHAIRMAN'S ADVISORY LEGISLATIVE FORUM (CALF)**  
**McHenry County Government – Administration Building**  
**667 Ware Road**  
**Woodstock IL 60098**

MINUTES OF TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Koehler at 8:10 a.m. The following members were present: Chairman Koehler; Ann Kate; Virginia Peschke; Dan Shea; Ann Gilman; Lyn Orphal; Perry Moy; and Mary Lou Zierer. Absent: Don Brewer, John Hammerand; and Marc Munaretto. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; John W. Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator – Finance; and W. Roger Gwinn and Trent Lehman of The Ferguson Group.

Don Brewer	Ann Gilman
John Hammerand	Ann Kate
Perry Moy	Marc Munaretto
Lyn Orphal	Virginia Peschke
Dan Shea	Mary Lou Zierer
Kenneth D. Koehler, Chairman	

MINUTE APPROVAL

Mr. Shea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Moy, to approve the October 25, 2005 CALF meeting minutes. Mr. Moy asked that his name be added to the list of members. The minutes were approved as amended with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None.

NEW BUSINESS

*Discussion of a legislative agenda:* Mr. Austin reported that Mr. Gwinn and Mr. Lehman had been meeting with various people to receive ideas on legislative issues that the County may wish to pursue. He then introduced Mr. Gwinn and Mr. Lehman, of the Ferguson Group to the members. Mr. Gwinn is the President of the firm and Mr. Lehman will be the County's "point person" on a day to day basis. Mr. Lehman has been with the group for the past 6.5 years and was made a partner in the firm this past July. The firm has 29 lobbyists in the group. Mr. Lehman stated the purpose of this initial visit with various department heads is to gather ideas, determine future needs of the County and prioritize issues. Transportation concerns have been identified; especially the Algonquin By-pass and the Route 47 exit which impacts both McHenry and Kane Counties. The short-term goal is to develop a legislative agenda for the next session by the end of January. Each requirement (which can vary in each office) must be met. Each congressional member can have different forms / requirements that must be completed during the process. Depending on situations, letters and phone calls supporting various bills can be viewed as appropriate or "over kill." There will be instances where select target communications will be requested. It was suggested that the County identify one or two projects as a priority. It will be important to make sure the County qualifies for funding that is requested. The County may not qualify for funding in some cases. Suggested items to consider included – vocational training; English as a second language; sheriff - communication technology, a firing range, training facility; the mental health court initiative; septic / sewers for rural areas; and ground water issues. Farmland preservation was also raised as a possible item to consider, however it was noted that it has been difficult to get federal funding for such a program. Mr. Gwinn emphasized the importance of developing a legislative agenda of local projects and to include issues that can be moved forward. Mr. Austin stated that the CALF would meet during the month of December to make decisions on a legislative program for the County Board to consider during the January 17, 2006 meeting. The members thanked Mr. Gwinn and Mr. Lehman of the Ferguson Group for their input.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Moy motioned, seconded by Ms. Orphal, to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

:bjt