

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2006

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:15a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Blake Hobson; Rick Klasen; Don Larson; and Anna May Miller. Lyn Orphal and Sandra Salgado were absent. Also present: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Pat McNulty, Health Department; Dr. Gorski, Board of Health; Julie Courtney Mary Stoerp, Workforce Network; and John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator.

Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Don Larson	Richard Klasen
Anna May Miller	Lyn Orphal
Sandra Salgado	Blake Hobson

MINUTES

Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hobson to recommend approval of the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of May 12, 2006. The minutes were approved as presented with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

Housing Authority Appointments: Committee members reviewed the applications received for the McHenry County Housing Authority. After review, Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen to recommend the reappointment of Gary Reece and Mark Ruda to the McHenry County Housing Authority. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Board of Health Appointments: Committee members interviewed Mr. Dallas Larson for the vacancy on the Board of Health. The position is vacant because of the resignation of Tracey Odishoo. Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hobson to recommend the appointment of Mr. Dallas Larson to the Board of Health. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Mental Health Board: Committee members were reminded that there is one vacancy on the Mental Health Board from the resignation of Ronald Masukawa. Two applications were received for this position. Mr. Terrance Ellis had also previously indicated interest in serving on the Mental Health Board. Committee members interviewed Ms. Sharon Osterberg for this appointment. Committee members elected to schedule an interview with Mr. Richard Kirchoff, who was unable to attend today's meeting, before making a decision regarding this open position. Committee members directed staff to arrange for an interview with Mr. Kirchoff at the next committee meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution authorizing an increase in Senior Service Grant funds for the Richmond Township Senior Transportation Program: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing an increase in Senior Service Grant funds for the Richmond Township Senior Transportation Program. This request was approved by the Senior Service Grant Commission. Mr. Larson 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.

Resolution authorizing mid year salary increases for two Workforce Network Counselor positions: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing mid year salary increases for two Workforce Network Counselor positions. Ms. Courtney informed committee members that she is shifting duties within the department to better meet the needs of the department. The increases are included in the budget. After review, Ms. Miller 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.

Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$47,441 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for a Cities Readiness Initiative and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY05/06 budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$47,441 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for a Cities Readiness Initiative and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY05/06 budget. The acceptance of this grant will help the Health Department improve its capacity to respond to Pandemic Flue, Strategic National Stockpile Distribution and Regional Emergency Preparedness. Mr. Larson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hobson to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$54,445 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for Pandemic Influenza Planning and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY05/06 budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$54,445 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for Pandemic Influenza Planning and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY05/06 budget. This grant will be used for the planning component of Pandemic Influenza Planning. After review, Mr. Larson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

Mr. Klasen left committee at 9:08a.m.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Mr. McNulty provided committee members with information concerning news reports of contaminations in McCullom Lake and Spring Grove. Two industries have been accused of contaminations in these areas. These industries are being named in a lawsuit regarding an unusual amount of cancers being found in the area. Once contamination was found on these industry's property's they took steps for voluntary remediation. Routine samples have been taken of area wells without any breach of contamination. Mr. McNulty stated that these lawsuits are allegations only. More specific investigations will be needed before a conclusion could be made regarding these cancers and where they come from. He noted that the individual's property where cancer was found was not on the same watershed as these industries. The IEPA will be attending a groundwater information session to answer questions surrounding this situation at 6:30p.m. and 8:00p.m. Additional information is available on the Health Department web page regarding data, reference material and links to the issues regarding the groundwater contamination in Spring Grove and McCullom Lake. Mr. McNulty noted that if there is an issue with brain cancer, it's not from these facilities.

WIB: Chairman Peschke stated that the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) has determined there is a need for welders in the area. They are looking for space in the County to train/teach welding.

Last Monday a meeting was held regarding the Women in Trades. They are encouraging more women to get involved in higher paying jobs.

HRC: The King Tutt essay awards have been presented by the HRC. The HRC is looking into costs to have another video created regarding diversity. A press release will be done alerting teachers know of the video availability. The Latino Coalition is looking for seed money to research the Latino history of the county.

Board of Health: Committee members thanked Dr. Gorski for attending today's meeting. Dr. Gorski commended Ms. Gallas for her work on the contamination report presented to the Board of Health. He stated the report contained worthwhile information.

Animal Control: Costs estimates are being refined for a possible new facility. Prime Hoffman is working on the costs analysis for Crystal Lake Property. They are also looking to see what it would cost to build a new facility on County Property. The County has put is a re-zoning requests with Crystal Lake. Additional options will be explored before a final decision is made. Committee members were reminded that the Animal Control Advisory Board had previously completed a study showing the need for a new animal control facility.

Dr. Gorski stated the next issue for the Board of Health will be homelessness in the County.

Mental Health Board: The public comment session was held on the 15th with the public stating they are thankful for the services being offered. Mr. Larson noted that services need to be more accessible in the County.

Open Burning Forum: Mr. Labaj reported that an open burning forum meeting was held last week. They will be working to update the current burning ordinance. They will also be discussing possible alternatives for collection of yard waste. They will be meeting on a monthly basis.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hobson to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Recommend the reappointment of Gary Reece and Mark Ruda to the McHenry County Housing Authority

Recommend the appointment of Mr. Dallas Larson to the Board of Health

Recommend approval of Resolution authorizing an increase in Senior Service Grant funds for the Richmond Township Senior Transportation Program

Recommend approval of Resolution authorizing mid year salary increases for two Workforce Network Counselor positions

Recommend approval of Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$47,441 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for a Cities Readiness Initiative and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY05/06 budget
Recommend approval of Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$54,445 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for Pandemic Influenza Planning and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY05/06 budget

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