

MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 05, 2006

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 Blake Hobson 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, September 05, 2006.

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. Ms. Peschke gave the invocation/personal remarks.

ROLL CALL

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

MINUTES

Mr. Shea made a motion seconded by Ms. Miller to approve County Board Regular Session minutes from August 15th, 2006. Chairman Koehler asked for any changes or corrections; in the public participation part it was noted that the town of two speakers was incorrect; the correction was noted and will be changed. Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, the motion is passed.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Koehler said he received a letter of thanks, which he read, from Sheriff Nygren acknowledging the participation that the County Board and county employees played in the Special Olympics fundraiser. Chairman Koehler also commented that Cathy Link attended a conference and received a plaque for the citizens of McHenry County, especially for County Board and staff, for our contributions to the Hurricane Katrina Relief project. He added that much of the items collected here were shipped down to Jackson, MS then re-distributed throughout the entire area.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Ms. Draffkorn made a motion seconded by Ms. Salgado to approve the following Eagle Scout recognition:

Kyle Riordan of Troop #128 in Fox Lake

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Project Ignition – Jacob’s High School Service Learning Students

Mr. Munaretto spoke about the group who are about to speak. He said there is a national competition that these students are participating in through their Service Learning Educational Program. He introduced Mr. Eliseo Saldivar, the Coordinator for the Service Learning Program at Jacobs High School. Mr. Saldivar explained that this project – Project Ignition – In the Blink of an Eye – is being presented by an exceptional group of students from Jacobs High School.

He introduced the participants in the program: Eraj Din, Eric Johnson, Ed Unruh, Nimi Chigaryl, Kasey Cavanaugh and Matt Bishop.

Jacobs is one of twenty-five schools that have been chosen to participate in this national competition sponsored by State Farm. The students have three months to complete their project at which time the projects will be presented and the top ten programs will be chosen. If the project makes the top ten, the participants are invited to Albuquerque, NM to present the program to the National Board and then the top program in the country will be chosen. The winner’s school will receive a \$10,000 grant to continue their program.

Mr. Munaretto thanked Mr. Saldivar for bringing the students to present their program to the board. He asked the board if we could authorize the chairman to execute a resolution that they can take as evidence that they’ve come before us today and presented their Project Ignition Program. He also asked if the Sheriff’s Department would mind sending a letter to Jacob’s High School acknowledging the contribution these students are making to the public safety effort in McHenry County.

Mr. Munaretto made a motion seconded by Mr. Shea to adopt a resolution in support of and acknowledging Project Ignition and the contribution it is making to public safety in McHenry County.

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

Under Sheriff Lowery said the Sheriff’s Department would be happy to send a letter.

Also, he offered that if there is anything that they can put out through their deputy’s who handle accidents on the street in a face to face to help promote their program, they would be open to listen to anything they might have as a handout for county wide distribution.

He also stated that the weekend has been a busy one for their department in regard to fatal accidents and there have also been an increase in fatalities this year compared with last year. They are working in concert with the IL State Police to form an Operational Task Force to join with them and other municipalities throughout the county to combat the issues regarding traffic fatalities and serious traffic injuries of which most are from not only distractions but from use of intoxicants.

Chairman Koehler thanked the students and their instructor for an excellent presentation.

Chairman Koehler noted that 8.2 on the agenda, Moving Beyond Congestion –RTA presentation has been removed from the agenda for today.

Art Donations to McHenry County

Susan Stelford came forward and showed the board recent donation(s) as well as a recent acquisition for the county’s art collection. She also encouraged board member to visit the exhibit in the hall by the employee entrance as there are over 250 photographs hanging that were taken in McHenry County. They represent the changes in season in McHenry County.

Ms. Gilman added that there is a meeting next week and they are anticipating more acquisitions for the collection.

Debt Issuance and Debt Refinancing

Eric Anderson of Harris Bank came forward saying the last time he was here was about 19 months ago. He said Harris continues to evaluate the county and whether our existing debt structure could be refunded to enjoy some debt service savings. There was an opportunity early in the year and now as rates are being chased downward. Since late June rates with the 10 year treasury have come down by half a point which is a big movement. This enables a portion of the county's 2002 debt certificates to be refundable, which could be a debt service savings of about \$285,000. He said they have met with the Finance Committee and described this to them and now might be the right time to pursue this program. In conjunction with that then it would be a good time from a cost issuance stand point because these projects are on the forefront you might consider issuing debt to not only fund the Animal Control Facility, which is a two-pronged approach, we would reimburse the General Fund for dollars that were expended to acquire the facility as well as provide additional dollars to renovate the facility. At the same time, the third leg of the program would be to fund about \$1.2 million dollars to fund some energy conservation measures through guaranteed energy savings contracts. Mr. Anderson said the aggregate financing value would be somewhere north of \$8.2 million dollars and changes every day. This is based on what they have to do in terms of funding the escrow value which refunds the Debt Series 2002 debt certificates.

Ms. Hill noted that the \$1.2 million dollars to fund the energy conservation measures has not been approved by Management Services yet and they are still looking at this. It is her understanding from Finance that this is to set aside the use of this for this funding. Mr. Munaretto responded that they are anticipating this a little bit but it is much cheaper to consolidate our financings while we are doing them. Although the program has not been approved yet, the Finance Committee believes that this program will very likely be approved. If it is not, it can be withdrawn from the financing at the last minute.

Mr. Moy noted that the \$3.4 million to repay the General Fund, that is to purchase the facility in Crystal Lake and to remodel the facility. When the plans are received, Building Projects will be monitoring the renovation and if all of the funds are not spent, money will be put back into the General Fund.

Mr. Anderson told the board that they are on a short time line in order to take advantage of interest rates where they are. He would anticipate coming before the board at the next meeting for adoption of ordinances and then closing pretty quickly thereafter. On September 14th they will go before Moody's Investor Service. Presently the county's rating is AA2 and they are looking to improve on that; he is very encouraged that it will improve. All of the debt offerings will be offered to McHenry County banks first.

Chairman Koehler thanked Mr. Anderson for coming.

Paperless County Board – Tina Hill to present

Ms. Hill said Management Services is looking to resurrect this. They are looking at ways to move away from paper agendas. There was a meeting to see if this could be made more user friendly. Management Services will discuss this further at their meeting on September 12th. She said there will be 10 County Board members that will be working from the laptop computers instead of paper agendas as soon as our next night meeting. There will be a short training session so if any other board members want to join them, they can. USB ports will be used to hold the information.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Koehler explained the rules of public participation. The following person spoke:
Lesla Dreyer of Geneva for Petition #06-47; Calvert rezoning

Noting no other persons wishing to speak, Chairman Koehler closed public participation.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution authorizing an intergovernmental agreement with McHenry County Conservation District

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

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Salgado, Shea, Wheeler, Brewer, Chmiel, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Gilman, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Hobson, Jung, Klasen, Larson, Merkel, Miller, Moy, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Provenzano and Koehler. Absent: Zierer. The vote being twenty-three (23) ayes noting one (1) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

Resolution proclaiming Monday, September 25, 2006 as Family Day

Mr. Klasen made a motion seconded by Ms. Chmiel to approve the above-named resolution.

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

ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if anyone wished to remove an item. There were none.

Mr. Hobson made a motion seconded by Ms. Gilman to approve the Routine Consent Agenda as presented.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Salgado, Shea, Wheeler, Brewer, Chmiel, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Gilman, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Hobson, Jung, Klasen, Larson, Merkel, Miller, Moy, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Provenzano and Koehler. Absent: Zierer. The vote being twenty-three (23) ayes noting one (1) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

ORDINANCES

For Review: Ordinance to amend Article XVII of the Public Health Ordinance

Ms. Peschke pointed out that on page 44 under Section 7 regarding rabies vaccination it should say "every owner of a dog or cat." This will be corrected as it is required for both dogs and cats to be vaccinated.

Ms. Hill asked how the review process works. She said she reviewed the recommendations from the Dangerous and Vicious Dogs Taskforce and she went to the Animal Advisory Committee meeting when they talked about the recommendations, and they drastically lowered the fees at that meeting. When it was forwarded to the Board of Health they didn't have much discussion. They were concerned that if the fees were too high there wouldn't be compliance. She feels that non-neutered fees need to be much higher.

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Ms. Gilman to refer this Ordinance back to committee to review the fees and other issues that may be brought up by other board members.

It was suggested that going back to committee might not be a good idea, as it was felt that the County Board as a whole should be deciding on this not just those seven people.

Mr. Stone said that the appropriate time to make changes is when it is being brought up for adoption. It has been noted that some board members feel it should be brought up at committee so that changes can be made beforehand.

Ms. Hill offered to remove her motion if the chairman of Public Health would rather the changes be done on the board floor when it comes for approval. Ms. Peschke said she felt it was appropriate to have consent of the entire county board. Ms. Gilman, the second of this motion, wondered if it would be appropriate for the committee to review this again, as the board has agreed with this motion.

Board members discussed the possibility of language changes as well as fee changes. It was suggested that board members e-mail their input for changes to Public Health Committee members if they are unable to make the Public Health Committee meeting on Friday. It was also suggested that the copies that everyone has now can be marked up with changes and given to Public Health Committee members.

It was asked if people who have animals that have been neutered before licensing can get a credit for having them fixed first. Mr. McNulty said there has always been a fee differential for animals that are altered and those that are not. If a person gets their animal neutered after they pay the non-neutered fee will they get a credit? Mr. McNulty said yes they have done that if it is within a reasonable amount of time; they must provide proof.

It was suggested that we ask the newspapers to publish the fact that all of the public input that we have received over the past months is now coming to a head with a change in the ordinance.

Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote on the motion to send this Ordinance back to committee to be reviewed for possible changes. The ayes having it, the motion has passed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Austin told the board he has handed out a written report to them for their review. If you have any questions, you can contact him.

Mr. Austin asked Mr. Labaj to comment on the Valley Hi transition. Mr. Labaj said that the transition team from Valley Hi will be getting together once weekly between now and whenever we get IDPH approval to move patients into the new Valley Hi facility. The more the team discusses the move the more they think of situations that can occur and then can address those issues now and have planning in place in case it occurs so that the transition can run as smooth as possible.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Koehler said there was a need to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation and to review previous executive session minutes.

Ms. Peschke made a motion seconded by Ms. Miller to go into executive session.

Executive Session ran from 10:10 a.m. to 10:29 a.m.

Ms. Hill made a motion seconded by Mr. Merkel to go into regular session.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Salgado, Shea, Wheeler, Brewer, Chmiel, Draffkorn, Dvorak, Gilman, Hammerand, Heisler, Hill, Hobson, Jung, Klasen, Larson, Merkel, Miller, Moy, Munaretto, Orphal, Peschke, Provenzano and Koehler. Absent: Zierer. The vote being twenty-three (23) ayes noting one (1) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

Chairman Koehler asked for a motion to support a resolution regarding Case #06 MR 150.

Mr. Moy made a motion seconded by Ms. Wheeler to approve the support of Resolution regarding Case #06 MR 150.

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

Ms. Gilman made a motion seconded by Mr. Hobson to approve the release of Executive Session minutes as approved by the State's Attorney's office with the exception of any minutes addressing McHenry County employees and their settlements or salary and/or termination language.

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

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Peschke noted that the week of September 17th is being designated as Dine Out with United Way. A number of restaurants are going to be providing a percentage of their tickets to United Way on certain nights, she said it would be a good way to help support United Way by eating out at designated restaurants. Hopefully the list of establishments will be published in the paper.

Mr. Larson said that the Lion's Club is hosting its pork chop barbeque tomorrow at the Moose starting at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and you get two chops. He invited all to attend and support the Lion's Club.

Ms. Hill reported an incident that she heard of regarding Animal Control over the Labor Day weekend. An animal got hit by a car in Wonder Lake and was injured pretty badly. The woman took the animal in and nurtured it and called Animal Control but the response she received was that they could not help her until Tuesday. Ms. Hill talked with her and said Animal Control would keep it indefinitely to help it if the animal could be helped. Ms. Hill was not happy about the response because it becomes the obligation of the citizen to take care of this animal.

Mr. Hammerand said he attended a meeting of concerned citizenry with Ms. Draffkorn regarding our Sign Ordinance and he believes that we should re-examine our sign ordinance and make sure that our local businesses in the county are on even footing with businesses in the municipal areas that they are competing against. He also thinks that some of the responses given by staff should be make public, such as 2 sq ft signs are exempt from the sign ordinance, also the concerns that were brought up about flood areas, where if you have a number of signs on your property you only get charged one fee for the examination of the flood ordinance. He feels that there is an information gap in between what our ordinance says, what is being enforced and what the people out there believe our ordinance is and it should be addressed.

Ms. Chmiel asked all county board members that if there is an issue about ordinances that needs to be discussed that it be brought in front of the applicable committee for discussion and for review by the whole county board.

Mr. Merkel asked where the t-shirts and pins came from that were on their desks. Mr. Klasen responded that they came from the Sheriff's Department as part of the Special Olympics. He thanked everyone for their generosity.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Heisler made a motion seconded by Ms. Miller to adjourn at 10:37 a.m. Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 19th day of September, A.D., 2006.

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

ATTEST:

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