

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2006

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:17a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Lyn Orphal; Blake Hobson; Anna May Miller and Sandra Salgado. Don Larson was absent. Also present: Ken Koehler, County Board Chairman; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Peter Austin, County Administrator; and Interested Public.

Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Randy Donley	Mary Donner
Mary McCann	Anna May Miller
Lyn Orphal	Sandra Salgado

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of November 30, 2006. Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Orphal to recommend approval of the minutes as presented. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Committee members were joined by Bob Pierce, Dorr Township Supervisor, Mike Iwanicki, Veteran's Assistance Director and Scott Block, PADS, regarding the need for dental care for the indigent and low income individuals in the County. They all noted the extreme need within the County. They noted that there is no dental care available except in extreme emergencies. Mr. Pierce noted that he recently had to arrange for emergency care through his own dentist, and pay him individually, because of no response from the dental clinic. Mr. Block noted that they have been sending dental patients to the dental school in Rockford or Milwaukee. He noted a taxi is used to send these emergency patients to Rockford in a Taxi costing \$75 each way. They stated a voucher program for dental services is needed in the County. Mr. McNulty noted that the Dental Clinic has limited resources. He noted that dental care is a huge issue in the County. He noted that messages to the clinic should be responded to and he will check the procedures established for the office. He noted all of the Health Department offices have been given direction to return calls. He noted the department tries to refer individuals to other agencies to obtain the needed help. He noted the dental clinic is currently scheduling appointments several months out and the doctor is the one that makes the decision as to who should be treated. It was noted that there is no fulltime dentist on staff and the clinic is manned by a core group of dentist who volunteer their time to the clinic. Mr. Labaj noted that the voucher program through the CDBG is limited to the amount that can be funded. It was noted that the department will continue to look for grants to fund this needed service. It was noted that the Family Health Partnership Clinic is trying to get a FQHC status (Federal Qualified Healthcare Center) but the County currently does not qualify. It was noted that a dental clinic could be set up with Family Health Partnership Clinic if the Federal Status is obtained.

PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

*Resolution in support of and promoting Agritourism as an emerging industry in McHenry County:* Committee members reviewed a Resolution in support of and promoting Agritourism as an emerging industry in McHenry County. Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Orphal to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. Chairman Peschke noted that at yesterday's Planning & Development Committee meeting changes were made to the resolution and the revised resolution is available on the desk for review. Mr. McNulty noted that he is not sure this Resolution is in the best interest of the County, the public and the Health Department would continue to deal with the public on health issues. He noted that whether food is served from a pole barn or a restaurant the same issues exists. He noted that his department would still have the governing authority when food is being served. Concern was also noted regarding the rights of the Planning & Development Department. Chairman Peschke noted that the "legal ends" still would need to be tightened up in the resolution to include both the Health Department and Planning and Development governing rights. It was noted that the resolution needs to include an exception that states the Health Department is the governing authority when food is being served and include the wording of "any threat to life, health & safety" to address health and safety concerns for both the Health Department and Planning & Development. Chairman Peschke noted that this task force is a discussion group on how the County can run a safe agritourism industry in the County. This is just a tool to address a new issue. There will be a temporary exemption until the rules for agritourism are applied. This is not intended to lower the health standards in the county. The motion carried with all members present voting aye, with direction to work with the State's Attorney to include needed language in the resolution.

*Housing Authority Appointment/Interview:* Committee members interviewed Ms. Karen Stunkel for the open position on the Housing Authority. Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller to recommend the appointment of Karen Stunkel to the Housing Authority. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Approved 01.12.07

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*WIB:* None

*HRC:* The HRC will be contributing towards the cost of the art mural that will be placed in the employee lunch room and will have a piñatas contest to teach the history of the piñatas to area students. The winning students will have their piñatas hung within the Administration Building. Chairman Peschke informed the new committee members that she, Ms. Miller and Mr. Jung are members of the HRC and wish to retain their membership to the council. After discussion, Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to recommend the reappointment of John Jung, Anna May Miller and Virginia Peschke to the Human Relations Council. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

*Housing Authority:* Julie Biel-Claussen has been named as the director of the Housing Authority. Ms. Sonntag will remain as a consultant to the Housing Authority. Her last official day will be December 29<sup>th</sup>.

*Board of Health:* Chairman Peschke noted that the Board of Health has two committees where there are vacancies. The Board of Health Hearing Committee meets only when an appeal has been filed regarding an animal control decision. Mr. McNulty noted this committee meets on an infrequent basis. Another vacancy exists on the Animal Control Advisory Board. This committee meets on a monthly basis. This committee makes recommendations to the department regarding Animal Control. Ms. Miller voiced her desire to be placed on this board. Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to recommend the appointment of Ms. Miller to the Animal Control Advisory Board. The motion carried with all members present voting aye. Chairman Peschke requested that anyone interested in serving on the Hearing Committee to let her know.

*Animal Control:* Mr. McNulty noted that they met with the design builder yesterday to discuss the desires of the department. No contract has been obtained from the builder as of yet. He noted that they are hopeful for completion around October 2007. No detailed plan has been brought forward to date.

*Mental Health Board:* It was noted that the Mental Health Board has approved their personnel policy handbook. They mimicked the County policy book on most of our policies. It was noted that there are still some differences but they are closer to the County policies than in the past.

*Noise Ordinance:* None

*VAC:* Mr. Iwanicki noted that Keri's last day was last Monday. He noted that she has moved out of the state so the department is in need of a Veteran's Service Officer.

*Open Burning Forum:* Mr. Labaj noted there were not too many complaints this year. The forum is refining cost proposals to include with alternate disposal methods. He noted that a decision will be needed where the County Board wants to go with this. He noted this may be part of the Strategic Plan. He noted the next Forum meeting should be scheduled early next year.

*Senior Services Grant Commission:* The commission will need to schedule an appointment to interview for the open positions on the commission. The applications were due in yesterday. The next meeting will be held to review the applications and interview the applicant. Mr. Labaj noted that Chairman Koehler signed the 17 grant contracts yesterday. It was noted that a new group is trying to get started in the County called "Silver Lining". This group is a referral service for seniors. Committee members questioned whether this group would be a duplication of services already offered from Senior Services. Committee members noted they did not know.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to adjourn the meeting at 9:45a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:**

Recommend approval of amended Resolution in support of and promoting Agritourism as an emerging industry in McHenry County

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