

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2007

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:20a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke; Mary McCann; James Heisler; Sandra Salgado and Mary L. Donner. Daniel Ryan arrived at 8:22a.m. Anna May Miller arrived at 9:20a.m. Also present: John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Patty Nomm, Health Department; Mike Iwanicki, Veteran's Assistance Commission; and Sandy Lewis, Mental Health.

Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Mary L. Donner	James Heisler
Mary T. McCann	Anna May Miller
Daniel Ryan	Sandra Salgado

MINUTES

Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to approve the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of September 14, 2007, as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Mr. Ryan arrived at 8:22a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

*Open Burning Ordinance:* Committee members entered into discussion regarding the open burning ordinance. Committee members discussed concerns that were noted during the County Board meeting regarding the ordinance. One issue included the lack of enforcement. It was noted that area Fire Department's have expressed their willingness to help enforce this ordinance. The main concern from the committee was the lack of enforcement of the Ordinance and the lack of affordable alternatives to burning. Committee members noted that it would be helpful if the Chief from the Fire Chief Association would attend a County Board meeting to inform board members of the support from the Fire Protection groups. More concrete affordable alternatives to burning are needed as well. It was also stated that the County's Waste Haulers Contract states they must offer pick up of landscape waste, which is not being done. Committee members questioned if we could learn of any enforcement alternatives from neighboring Counties. It was noted that most of the Municipalities burning ordinance is more restrictive than the County's. Chairman Peschke requested committee members speak to County Board members to address concerns regarding the changes to the ordinance. The committee gave the directive to get additional information regarding alternatives and to meet with Planning & Development and the Solid Waste Coordinator to see if the active issues to address the alternatives are working. Committee members were informed that some haulers do pick up yard waste at \$2 a bag. The problem comes when a property has a large number of trees and it takes 100 bags to clear the property, thus not being an affordable option. This becomes cost prohibitive. Committee members stated that it would be helpful if the map is again shown to the County Board members, so they can see the areas of concern. It was noted that the County Board members need to know that most burning citations will be addressed with a warning, unless they are repetitive abuses. Education with agencies and departments are needed as well. It was noted that the draft ordinance is available for review on the County web page.

NEW BUSINESS

*Resolution for the mandatory federal funding for veterans health care advisory referendum:* Mr. Iwanicki joined committee members for consideration of a Resolution for the mandatory federal funding for veterans health care advisory referendum. Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. Mr. Iwanicki noted this Resolution is supported by the national organizations like the VFW, Amvets and Eagles. He also stated this will allow for needed discussion of this issue. The Resolution only allows for an advisory referendum to be placed on the ballot. After review, the motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

*Human Relations Council:* Chairman Peschke informed committee members that there are two terms on the Human Relations Council that will expire in September. Mario Perez has noted he would like to be considered for reappointment to the HRC. The other member, Don Riggerback, is not in good health and would not reapply. Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to recommend the reappointment of Mario Perez to the Human Relations Council. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

*Senior Services Grant commission Appointments: Mark Shepherd and Tamara Valentine Garza:* Committee members reviewed the reappointment of Mr. Mark Shepherd and Ms. Tamara Valentine Garza to the Senior Services Grant Commission. Mr. Shepherd fills the position for McCog (McHenry County Council of Governments) and Ms. Garza fills the Township Supervisor position. Ms. McCann made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend the reappointments of

Mr. Shepherd and Ms. Valentine Garza to the McHenry County Grant Commission. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Ms. Miller arrived at 9:20a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

*WIB:* Committee members were informed that they had a dinner with the youth involved with their programs. This dinner recognizes companies for helping with these programs. The program shows youths that they can be somebody. Karissa Harden, who has worked for the Administration offices, is involved with this program, gave a speech regarding her experiences.

*HRC:* The next meeting will take place on October 17<sup>th</sup> at Hebron Lutheran Church. This is a test case location to see if residents will attend these meetings if the locations are moved to the different areas of the County. They are trying to find out if individuals will bring any issues to the commission's attention. Committee members were informed that they are trying to hold an open house at MCC similar to last year's event.

*Housing Authority:* The Housing Authority is reviewing all of their current leases. They are restructuring their leases and raising fees. Committee members were informed that the Housing Authority Board lost its section 8 member of the board. The Housing Authority has \$25,000 available for dental services. A voucher would be used for this program to be given to the dentist for reimbursement of up to \$1,000. It was noted that this is a superior program.

*Board of Health:* The Board of Health ordinance sub-committee will be reviewing the request to re-look at the pool barrier ordinance. Chairman Peschke informed committee members that she is the only member of this committee that feels the ordinance is too restrictive. She noted she would like some of the Public Health & Human Services Committee members to join her in the discussion with this group regarding the pool barrier restrictions. The group would like to remove all pool barrier exemptions. Mr. McNulty is to provide the committee with statistics regarding deaths that have occurred when barriers are in place.

*Animal Control:* Demolition has started at the new facility. Since the demolition has come in under budget, there may be some additional funds available to purchase needed equipment.

*Mental Health Board:* The levy for the Mental Health Board has been estimated lower this year. The budget will be fine tuned to reflect this change. The Raue Center is advertising a movie about Mental Illness. This movie will be sent to main stream movie theaters in the near future. Committee members were reminded about the Walk for Mental Illness that is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup>.

*Noise Ordinance:* None

*VAC:* None

*Senior Services Grant Commission:* None

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to adjourn the meeting at 9:31 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:**

Resolution for the mandatory federal funding for veterans health care advisory referendum

Recommend reappointment of Mario Perez to the Human Relations Council

Recommend the appointments of Mark Shepherd and Tamara Valentine Garza to the Senior Services Grant Commission

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