

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock IL 60098

MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008

Committee Chairman Marc Munaretto called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Marc Munaretto; Marie Chmiel; Tina Hill; Lyn Orphal; Daniel Ryan; and Barbara Wheeler. John Hammerand was absent. Also in attendance: Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator – Finance; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Peter Austin, County Administrator; Pam Palmer, Auditor; Tom Sullivan, I.T.; Pat McNulty, Health; interested public; and the press.

Marc Munaretto, Chairman	
Marie M. Chmiel	John Hammerand
Tina Hill	Lyn Orphal
Daniel P. Ryan	Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES

Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to recommend approval of the January 8, 2008 committee minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

PRESENTATION: None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$80,542 grant amendment from the Illinois Department of Public Health for an emergency response preparedness program and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 budget: Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$80,542 grant amendment from the Illinois Department of Public Health for an emergency response preparedness program and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 budget. Mr. McNulty noted that this Resolution will provide funding for a health education position to work on the emergency plan program. Ms. Orphal questioned if the position would conform to the new grade scale and salary range. Mr. McNulty stated it does conform to the current system but he will need to review the proposed new grade and salary ranges to see how this position will be slotted. Chairman Munaretto questioned how the transition to the proposed new system will be addressed. Mr. Austin stated that the Committee should not be overly concerned with this requested position. The new system will move a handful of employees up into a new grade range if approved by the County Board on the 19th of February. He stated once approved by the County Board, a salary administration policy will be developed for separate action by the County Board. The total financial impact of the proposed new system will be available for discussion by the Human Resources and Finance and Audit Committees on February 11th. After discussion, a roll call vote was called. The motion carried with all members present voting aye (Hill, Chmiel, Ryan, Orphal, Wheeler and Munaretto).

Resolution authorizing the acceptance of \$70,890 in new grant funding from the McHenry County Mental Health Board and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 Budget: Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Chmiel, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution authorizing the acceptance of \$70,890 in new grant funding from the McHenry County Mental Health Board and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 Budget. On a roll call vote, the motion carried with all members present voting aye (Hill, Chmiel, Ryan, Orphal, Wheeler and Munaretto).

Resolution authorizing a salary increase for the Chief County Assessment Officer for the FY budget year 2007-2008: Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Chmiel, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution authorizing a salary increase for the Chief County Assessment Officer for the FY budget year 2007-2008. Mr. Sarbaugh stated this is an annual Resolution that allows the State to reimburse the County for one-half of the Chief County Assessment Officer's salary. On a roll call vote, the motion carried with all members present voting aye (Hill, Chmiel, Ryan, Orphal, Wheeler and Munaretto).

Resolution authorizing salary increases for the Board of Review for FY budget 07-08: Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution authorizing salary increases for the Board of Review for FY budget 07-08. Mr. Sarbaugh noted that this Resolution allows for the

salary adjustment for the Board of Review Chair and the regular members of the Board of Review. On a roll call vote, the motion carried with all members present voting aye (Hill, Chmiel, Ryan, Orphal, Wheeler and Munaretto).

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the Law Library FY 07 budget: Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the Law Library FY 07 budget. On a roll call vote, the motion carried with all members present voting aye (Hill, Chmiel, Ryan, Orphal, Wheeler and Munaretto).

Resolution authorizing a Citrix Software 24x7x365 support contract: Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hill, to recommend the County Board approve a Resolution authorizing a Citrix Software 24x7x365 support contract. On a roll call vote, the motion carried with all members present voting aye (Hill, Chmiel, Ryan, Orphal, Wheeler and Munaretto).

Discussion – 0.25% Sales Tax: Chairman Munaretto reported that the State of Illinois recently approved legislation to increase sales tax rates by \$.50. Half of that increase (\$.25) will go to the Regional Transportation Authority and \$.25 will come back to the County to be used for transportation projects and public safety programs. He noted that not all information is available, but this increase could generate approximately 7 million dollars a year for McHenry County. He stated that with the recent decrease in sales tax revenue, this quarter cent may balance out to be flat in terms of dollars. The legislation does not provide a lot of definition or clarification and a better understanding of the use of the dollars needs to be determined. At this point, the Committee may want to begin having a conversation regarding possible uses. Mr. Austin stated that the possibility of this increase was made known last summer, but at that time the dollars were mainly to address transportation programs. A last minute amendment was made to insert public safety into the legislation. The Committee may want to consider a policy on how these funds will be used. Chairman Munaretto stated the Committee should consider how to allocate the funds and if we want to use those funds for mainly capital purposes. Consideration should also be given to using part of those funds to perpetuate the transportation program. Noting that with our favorable borrowing position it may be possible to leverage some funds to make a difference in mitigating traffic issues. Ms. Hill commented that she is frustrated with the state and feels this increase in sales tax is not in the best interest of the County, but given what we have the County should take a leadership role in how they want to use these dollars. She suggested that the County hold a public hearing to get public input before making a decision. Mr. Austin added that there is a great deal of unknowns and perhaps we need to wait to see how this will impact us during 2008. Chairman Munaretto stated that we do have the benefit of time to be thoughtful about how to address this increase. He stated he would also invite the public to provide their thoughts regarding the use of these funds for transportation or safety programs. Mr. Austin agreed, adding that consideration may want to be given to increasing the transportation five year program along with possible public safety projects. Ms. Chmiel suggested a split between capital and operating costs. She also asked how easy it is to repeal the whole thing. Chairman Munaretto stated he was unsure of how stable the revenue would be and asked the Committee to give some thought to this issue, noting there are many issues that need to be explored.

Next Meeting Date: Chairman Munaretto stated that the next regular meeting would fall on a holiday. He noted that the Human Resources Committee meets on 2/11 and asked that the Finance and Audit Committee meet jointly. After discussion, a joint meeting with the HR Committee will be scheduled for 9 a.m. on 2/11 followed by a Finance and Audit Committee regular meeting at 9:45 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS: None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Auditor's Report: Work continues in preparation for the outside auditors who will arrive on February 13, 2008.

Contingency Reports: No report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$80,542 grant amendment from the Illinois Department of Public Health for an emergency response preparedness program and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 budget

Resolution authorizing the acceptance of \$70,890 in new grant funding from the McHenry County Mental Health Board and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 Budget

Resolution authorizing a salary increase for the Chief County Assessment Officer for the FY budget year 2007-2008

Resolution authorizing salary increases for the Board of Review for FY budget 07-08

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the Law Library FY 07 budget

Resolution authorizing a Citrix Software 24x7x365 support contract

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