

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2007

Vice Chairman Salgado called the meeting to order at 8:15a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Sandra Salgado, Vice Chairman; Anna May Miller; Mary L. Donner; Daniel Ryan and James Heisler. Randy Donley and Virginia Peschke were absent. Also present: Pete Austin, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty and Patti Nomm, Health Department; Jane Wacker and Sandy Lewis, Mental Health; Barbara Wheeler, County Board Member; Land First Initiative representatives and interested public.

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

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of May25, 2007. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to recommend approval of the minutes as presented. The minutes were approved as presented with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. & Mrs. Rost from Bull Valley joined committee members to request a variance from the Pool Fence Ordinance requiring a fence be placed around their pool. They stated that they live on a 10 acre piece of property where they have had a pool constructed. They stated they tried to obtain a variance in order to allow the cover that they are using as being a barrier instead of a fence. They stated there is no allowance made for properties that are not in a subdivision setting with low population density and low traffic volume. They noted that they are 750' from their closest neighbor and 250' from the road. The western border of their property is owned by the Conservation District. The pool cover is very strong and durable with an automatic retractable cover. They noted that the Ordinance should be changed to address weaknesses in the ordinance. Committee members thanked the Rost's for attending today's meeting.

Rene Dankert joined committee members to complain about a large dirt bike operation taking place on Oak Grove Road in Alden Township. She stated that there are flyers posted in various dirt bike shops advertising use of this dirt bike track. She stated that they are running this track like a business and have business cards and flyers advertising this use. She noted they recently did some excavation to make changes to the track to allow for more bike jumps. She stated there are an enormous number of people using this track making it unbearable to be outside during its use. She noted the track runs from Wednesday to Sunday from 10:30a.m. until dusk. She noted they are doing additional excavating to allow for use by 4 X 4 vehicles. Ms. Dankert provided copies of recent violations received by the track owners. This operation has been taking place for over 10 years. The IEPA was on the site yesterday completing an investigation. Committee members informed Ms. Dankert that the County does not have a noise ordinance and has been addressing this issue with disorderly conduct complaints and suggested she file a complaint with the Sheriff. Committee members noted that the problem exists in the State Law where it allows for great flexibility to motor bike tracks.

PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Vice Chairman Salgado noted that the Land First Initiative Resolution will be moved to the bottom of the agenda.

Resolution accepting the IEPA Solid Waste Enforcement Grant: Committee members reviewed a Resolution accepting the IEPA Solid Waste Enforcement Grant. Mr. McNulty noted this resolution allows for the acceptance of their yearly grant. The grant funds are to be used to assist in supporting of the department's inspection efforts. Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Resolution authorizing acceptance of an IEPA Community Water Analyses Contract and to provide an emergency appropriation to the Health Department FY07 budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing acceptance of an IEPA Community Water Analyses Contract and to provide an emergency appropriation to the Health Department FY07 budget: Mr. McNulty noted that this is a new grant to be used to test the community drinking water supplies in our region. Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler to recommend approval of the above Resolution s presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the FY2007 McHenry County Mental Health Board Budget for the Child Mental Health Initiative – Family Care Grant: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the FY2007 McHenry County Mental Health Board Budget for the Child Mental Health Initiative – Family Care Grant. It was noted that the Resolution has been changed in the second “whereas” the portion that states that they would “execute an employment agreement” would be removed. Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to recommend approval of the above Resolution as corrected. Ms. Lewis noted that the State has agreed to transfer funds to pay for a Director for the Child Mental Health Initiative Project. This resolution identifies this new position. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Resolution supporting the creation of a “Land First Initiative” to produce conservation design standards and procedures for McHenry County: Ms. Wheeler, the Planning & Development Committee Chairman joined committee members to review a Resolution supporting the creation of a “Land First Initiative” to produce conservation design standards and procedures for McHenry County. Ms. Wheeler noted that the Planning & Development Committee directed staff to start a Land First Initiative with a clear desire to have the County go green and protect our land. A Land First sub committee was formed. Part of the direction included the need to redo the subdivision ordinance. She noted that the Resolution identifies the goals and so far they have had a positive reaction to the proposed changes. One of the principal focus’ of the group with address groundwater issues, reduce soil erosion, find alternative water resources and develop options. It was noted that green development takes two years of panning where a regular subdivision takes one year of planning. They want to make green development an easier process. It was noted that this type of planning requires education. After review, Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

WIB: None.

HRC: None.

Housing Authority: Ms. Donner noted they are reviewing the Emergency food and shelter program.

Board of Health: It was noted that three applications have been received for two openings on the Board of Health. Dr. Gorski and Linda Brogan have reapplied for reappointment. One other application has been received. One position must be filled by a physician and the other must be filled by a nurse. Dr. Gorski meets the physician requirement and Ms. Brogan meets the requirement for the nurse position. The other applicant does not meet the requirements for the positions. These positions are for three year terms. Committee members requested that the appointments for these positions be forwarded to the next committee meeting for approval.

Committee members requested the Board of Health review the standards for pool covers in the ordinance. It was noted that a variance may need to be created to address large acre properties. It was noted that the ordinance does not recognize some of these new pool covers as barriers and should be looked at as an alternative as well.

Animal Control: Mr. McNulty provided committee members with the latest designs for the new animal control facility. He noted that the designers have done a good job in minimizing the costs for the new facility. Committee members were informed they are looking into the possibility of creating a 501c3 for animal control in order to receive donations for the facility. This would be a private group who would decide who/where the donations should go. Committee members noted this is a great idea.

Committee members were informed that the Management Services Committee would discuss the possibility of the sale of the Banford Road property.

Mental Health Board: None.

Noise Ordinance: Committee members were informed that we will keep this issue on the agenda and see how the Sheriff is handling this issue through the disorderly conduct charge.

VAC: None

Open Burning Forum: The spring burning dates have now passed. Public hearings have been scheduled for June 20th and 27th, and July 11th for those interested. Mr. Labaj noted additional information will be sent out regarding these hearings.

Senior Services Grant Commission: The applications for the new grant period have been sent out. They are due back by August 1st. Two workshop training sessions have been planned. The training dates are June 17th and July 19th for those interested.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Resolution accepting the IEPA Solid Waste Enforcement Grant

Resolution authorizing acceptance of an IEPA Community Water Analyses Contract and to provide an emergency appropriation to the Health Department FY07 budget

Resolution authorizing an emergency appropriation in the FY07 McHenry County Mental Health Board Budget for the Child Mental Health Initiative – Family Care Grant

Recommend supporting the creation of a “Land First Initiative” to produce conservation design standards and procedures for McHenry County

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