

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2006

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:15a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Barbara Wheeler; Sandra Salgado; Lyn Orphal and Anna May Miller. Rick Klasen arrived at 8:18a.m. Don Larson was absent. Also present: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator – Finance; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty, Health Department; Carl Martens and Gerri Sherman, Workforce Investment; Sandy Lewis and Jane Wacker, Mental Health.

Virginia Peschke, Chairman

Don Larson	Richard Klasen
Anna May Miller	Lyn Orphal
Sandra Salgado	Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES

Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to, to recommend approval of the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of February 10, 2006. The minutes were approved as presented with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

Noise Ordinance: Chairman Peschke informed committee members that the Spring Grove neighbors have filed two additional incident reports. Nothing further to report.

Mr. Klasen arrived at 8:18a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution accepting the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant and authorizing an emergency appropriation in the McHenry County Job Training FY2006 Budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution accepting the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant and authorizing an emergency appropriation in the McHenry County Job Training FY2006 Budget. Mr. Martens stated he briefly mentioned this at the last meeting. This is a grant is for a one day symposium on March 14th. The grant will pay for the speaker at the symposium. The symposium will also be funded by contributions received from the Workforce Cooperative for Education and the MCEDC. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution authorizing a short term allocation from the General Fund to the Mental Health Board fund in FY2006: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing a short term allocation from the General Fund to the Mental Health Board fund in FY2006. Ms. Lewis stated that they hope they won't need to borrow the whole amount and will only draw down funds as needed. This is a precautionary step only. Mr. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye. Committee members questioned if this need to borrow funds yearly could be avoided. Mr. Sarbaugh noted that with a 5 month cash reserve, this could be eliminated. He reminded committee members that the County Board found it necessary to take out TAW's to handle the yearly budget, but, since we have a 5 month cash reserve, it has eliminated this necessity. Ms. Lewis stated they are in the process of having a cash reserve but, it takes a while to build the fund up. Other groups depend on funding from the Mental Health Board and these groups need to know the funds are available to make their payroll.

Resolution authorizing acceptance of the Illinois State Board of Education Funding and an emergency appropriation to the County Mental Health FY06 budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing acceptance of the Illinois State Board of Education Funding and an emergency appropriation to the County Mental Health FY06 budget. This is a small grant received from the State Board of Education to be used for WRAP services. Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a unanimous voice vote.

Resolution authorizing FY06 Budget line item transfers in the Mental Health Child Initiative Grant Fund: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing FY06 Budget line items transfers in the Mental Health Child Initiative Grant Fund. This is the first of the actions for the Child Initiative Grant, which called for one TA/State Liaison position. The duties will be completed by an employee of SEDOM leased to the MCMHB via a Memorandum of Understanding, in order to promote a partnership relationship between MCMHB and the education system to support sustainability of the project. Subject to favorable opinion regarding the employer/employee relationship as described in the Memorandum of Understanding, it is necessary to have the budget line item transfers as listed. Mr. Klasen made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Lewis reported that they have found an additional facility to house the personnel for the Child Initiative project. They move will take place in the middle of next month. They have been working with IT to get this move scheduled. They have completed the first quarterly news letter for this grant. This is available to those interested. Committee members questioned whether the Board would be looking for a larger facility in the future. Ms. Lewis noted this is a fairly new facility and does not see that happening in the near future, but noted it is hard to predict the long term needs of the department. She noted they are already crunched for space.

Discussion of Regional Groundwater Group/Issues: Chairman Peschke informed committee members that there was a discussion at the Planning & Development Committee (P & D) regarding the Groundwater issues. She notified the P & D committee of the desires of the Health Committee to have the ordinance handled thru this committee since the study was being completed by the Health Department. Mr. McNulty stated that Larry Thomas, who has done the study, recommended the ordinance be done by the Health Committee with approval of the P & D committee. Mr. Austin stated that we are a long way off from completing a groundwater ordinance. He passed out a working draft of a document prepared by Lake County with input from Lake, McHenry and Kane Counties, as well as NIPC. A follow up meeting was held in Kane County that also included Will County. There are Governor's orders that have been passed down to set aside \$5 million dollars to be used to look at the ground water issues of the States. He noted that he doesn't know at this time what the scope of these groups will be. McHenry and Kane Counties are well ahead of other counties surrounding groundwater issues. A Northeastern Regional group may be formed as one of the groups. The Governor's executive orders will help to facilitate the next part of the plan which will include meetings with State Representatives, DNR and Water Resources personnel. He noted the Draft Document includes a pretty aggressive timeline. He noted that if we look at the suggestions of the Baxter Woodman Study, it would be a good idea to set up a regulatory commission with approvals coming from the County Board. Mr. Austin reported that after Senator Obama's visit at MCC yesterday, he as well as Chairman Koehler had a short 10 minute meeting with Senator Obama and Representative Bean highlighting the Transportation and Water plans of McHenry County. Committee members questioned who would be the enforcer of a groundwater plan and asked if it could be regulated by both the Planning & Development Department and the Health Department. Mr. McNulty stated they do join in joint enforcement issues in regards to burning. Mr. Austin stated these issues will be discussed as part of the strategic plan next Friday. It was noted that there is a need to have more enabling legislation and should be State wide.

Chairman Peschke informed committee members that Dr. Mehanovic has resigned as the Animal Control Administrator. He mentioned he has been overwhelmed with his duties in his veterinary practice. She stated she needs direction from this committee regarding this position. It was noted that they are required to have an Administrator who will be able to put in at least 15 hours a week at the facility. Chairman Peschke stated that the current contract does not specify how many hours they have to put in but, this requirement should be included as part of the new contract. Committee members stated they have heard concerns regarding Dr. Mehanovic referring some animals to his clinic in Wonder Lake. Chairman Peschke stated that a new contract could forbid this as well. MR. McNulty stated we do have vets in the area, under contract, who are available for services if needed. He noted there is a huge availability issue and the Department determines who can be used. Committee members were questioned whether they support the Administrator position. The consensus of the committee was to support the position and advertise for the opening of the administrator position. The County needs to keep its presence at the facility. Adoptions are way up and the Administrator and Director have worked together towards great improvements at the facility. They noted there is finally communication, with the County Board regarding issues at the facility. The new Volunteer coordinator will be attending a future meeting to provide an update to committee members. Committee members questioned whether they could receive a formalized copy of the new volunteer policy and also asked how recruitment for volunteers was going. Mr. McNulty stated that a lot of the volunteers have not signed up because they do not want the "structure" that is now required. Committee members stated that this was part of the past problems at the facility. Mr. McNulty reported that are in the process of formalizing an agreement to allow a not for profit group to handle the adoptions of the facility. An RFP is being created and we will see if a group really wants to create a public/private partnership with the facility. Committee members agreed the cooperation now seen at the facility.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

WIB: See above

Open Burning Forum: Mr. Labaj reported they are working to set up meetings with area waste haulers regarding the setting up of contracts to handle yard waste. He has been in contact with some forum members regarding their possible role in public meetings. He noted the need of support. He noted they have been very helpful with education, which was part of their recommendations.

Senior Services Grant Commission: Mr. Labaj reported that the Senior Service Associates Survey has been completed and the results should be compiled soon. The analysis will be available in March. A meeting of the Commission will be needed to go over the survey results. Committee members suggested a meeting be scheduled for March 24th. Two issues need to be addressed. The first would be the "set aside" funds for Richmond Township and the program development for the used bus and the request to have Pioneer Center to have some boring samples taken in order to develop a campus complex for developmentally challenged seniors at the Valley Hi site. The States Attorney has determined that this is an allowable expense. Mr. Labaj stated he would also like to discuss the accomplishments of last years grant cycle.

Board of Health: Mr. McNulty stated that since there wasn't a meeting last month, they have a pretty full agenda for discussion this month. There are two open positions currently being advertised for the Board. One needs to be a physician.

Mental Health Board: Committee members welcomed the changes they are seeing at Mental Health since a new director has come on Board. They noted that Sandy has been working hard to bring both boards closer together.

HRC: Committee members were informed that Lou Ness attended the past HRC meeting with an application to join the HRC. The HRC has voted acceptance of her as a member and this will be on the next Public Health Agenda for action. Ms. Miller stated that two members of the Fraternite of Notre Dame attended the meeting looking for suggestions on how to handle recent opposition shown of them being in the neighborhood. Committee members stated that time should take care of this that most of this opposition seems to be geared towards ethnicity and religion and not them in particular.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Orphal made a motion, seconded by Ms. Miller to adjourn the meeting at 9:25a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Recommend Resolution accepting the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant and authorizing an emergency appropriation in the McHenry County Job Training FY2006 Budget

Recommend approval of Resolution authorizing a short term allocation from the General Fund to the Mental Health Board fund in FY2006

Recommend approval of Resolution authorizing acceptance of the Illinois State Board of Education Funding and an emergency appropriation to the County Mental Health FY06 budget

Recommend approval of Resolution authorizing FY06 Budget line items transfers in the Mental Health Child Initiative Grant Fund

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