

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, MAY 25, 2007

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:15a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Sandra Salgado; Randy Donley; Mary L. Donner; Daniel Ryan and James Heisler. Anna May Miller was absent. Also present: John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty and Patti Nomm, Health Department; Mike Iwanicki, Veteran's Assistance Commission; Carl Martens, Gerri Sherman, WIB; Julie Courtney, Job Network; Lorraine Kopczynski, Dan Haligus and Scott Block, Pioneer Center; 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 April 27, 2007. Mr. Heisler 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

None

PRESENTATION

PADS – Emergency Shelter Support: Lorraine Kopczynski, Dan Haligus and Scott Block joined committee members to request funding from the County for support to fund a 24/7/365 shelter. Ms. Kopszynski informed committee members that Pioneer Center acquired PADS as part of their funding programs and found that additional funding is needed to expand services currently being offered. They questioned committee members what type of funding could be offered for PADS from the County. They stated that when the PADS Day Services Center was built, it included 4 rooms, with 14 beds for temporary emergency shelter for the homeless. The intent was to have 24 hour/7 day per week access to emergency shelter. Unfortunately, PADS has never been able to secure funding for the staff needed to operate this shelter 7 days per week. The Crystal Lake Police offer train tickets to Chicago to obtain needed services that should be offered here. The group noted that these problems will only increase with no affordable low income housing available within the County. Committee members noted that there needs to be creative ways to maintain the needed shelters. They noted that there needs to be a way to get a constant revenue source. They noted that the area police are very supportive of the PADS programs. It was suggested that they check with the State's Attorney to find out if there is anyway to create an excise tax on alcohol or charge an extra recording fee to fund this type of program. It was also suggested that a housing trust fund be created that would be used like a CDBG type of program. Mr. Labaj stated he would check into this type of program and bring back the information for the committee to review. It was noted that this is the type of program that should involve surrounding municipalities, police, area builders as well as other groups.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

VAC-Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Veterans Lottery Grant and an emergency appropriation to the Veterans Assistance Commission: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Veterans Lottery Grant and an emergency appropriation to the Veterans Assistance Commission. Mr. Iwanicki stated that this is a two year pilot program for veterans. After review, Mr. Heisler 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 voice vote.

Resolution to accept the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #07-681002 for the FY08 WIB budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution to accept the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #07-681002 for the FY08 WIB budget. It was noted that this is the yearly allocation for the WIB Program. The funding has decreased a little because of decreases seen in the dislocated

worker program. After review, Ms. Salgado 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 voice vote.

Resolution accepting the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #06-631002 for the FY08 WIB Budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution accepting the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #06-631002 for the FY08 WIB budget. The above grant funds have been awarded to service delivery areas in the State of Illinois to allow funding for staff to the WIB. After review, Ms. Salgado 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.

Human Relations Council Bylaws: Chairman Peschke noted that she is moving this item up on the agenda as some of the committee members need to leave early. She noted that the bylaw have been revised because of some small changes made to the Council. She noted that they have added a treasurer and now elect a chairman from the Human Relations Council membership. After review, Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler to recommend approval of the changes to the Human Relations Council Bylaws as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Discussion – Littering and Automobile restraints for animals: Chairman Peschke noted that she requested these items place on the agenda for discussion because of a complaint letter received from a constituent. It was noted that the letter was addressing concerns when cigarettes are thrown out a window. Committee members noted that this type of issue is hard to monitor because this would take police action. Mr. McNulty noted that the Health Department addresses litter concerns for homes and buildings but highways would be another matter. He suggested that this issue may be addressed with an aggressive education campaign, though there would be some costs associated with this. The campaign could address “what is litter and how does it affect the community”. Committee members noted that the Adopt a Highway campaign has been a wonderful tool to address litter on the highways of the county. The second issue is dogs riding in the front seat of vehicles. Concern was noted with people allowing their animals ride on their laps while they are driving. Mr. McNulty noted this would be a State issue that would have to be addressed through legislative directive and right now the State only has laws on the books addressing dogs who ride in the back bed of pickup trucks. Committee members noted that it is hard to legislate common sense. Committee members questioned if there were any statistics regarding accidents caused by animals being in the front seat of a vehicle. Mr. McNulty stated he would check on this. Committee members agreed that this is an issue that should be discussed by the legislative forum.

Ms. Donner and Mr. Donley left committee at 8:58a.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

WIB: Mr. Martens provided an update to committee members. He informed committee members that they have completed this first part of their strategic planning. Another session has been planned for the 1st part of June for the completion of remaining planning session. Mr. Martens stated that the State had requested that a business plan for the Workforce Center Partner Agencies be filed with the Department of Labor. It was suggested that a requirement be put in place that would require a certain portion of Workforce funding be used for training. He noted the local members objected because this would eliminate local control of the funds. Some areas may need direct training costs, but, some areas need core services as well. He noted that each decision should be based upon local needs, and not be State mandated. The business plan was discussed with committee members. Mr. Martens noted that the business plan is a good idea because if we don't measure what has been achieved you don't know if a program is working. Next years plan will be based upon the numbers received from this years programs. Mr. Martens stated that hopefully, legislation will pass for reauthorization of the programs. He stated he will keep committee members updated.

HRC: See above.

Housing Authority: None.

Board of Health: None.

Animal Control: None.

Mental Health Board: Mr. Larson joined committee members and informed them that the Board had a visitation for their childcare program with a report on how their board is doing.

Noise Ordinance: None

VAC: None

Open Burning Forum: It was noted they are in the process of setting up public meetings to inform the public of the suggested changes to the ordinance. Meetings are being set up with Captain Cundiff to discuss enforcement of these changes. Mr. Labaj noted this should not cause a need for additional personnel in the Sheriff's Department.

Senior Services Grant Commission: None

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan to adjourn the meeting at 9:37a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Veterans Lottery Grant and an emergency appropriation to the Veterans Assistance Commission 2007 budget

Resolution to accept the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #07-681002 for the FY08 WIB budget

Resolution accepting the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #06-631002 for the FY08 WIB budget

Recommend approval of the amendments made to the Human Relations Council Bylaws

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