

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2008

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:15a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke; James Heisler; Sandra Salgado; and Dan Ryan. Mary Donner arrived at 9:03a.m. Mary McCann and Anna May Miller were absent. Also present: John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty and Patty Nomm, Health Department; and Bob Ivetic, Human Resources.

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

MINUTES

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to approve the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of February 8, 2008, as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESENTATION

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

*Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$25,000 grant from the Chicago Community Trust and an emergency appropriation to the Dental Care Clinic fund for FY08 budget:* Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing acceptance of a \$25,000 grant from the Chicago Community Trust and an emergency appropriation to the Dental Care Clinic fund for FY08 budget. Mr. McNulty informed committee members that this is the second year a grant has been received from this group with the funds to be used to expand services and hire a part time clerical person to help in the clinic. Mr. McNulty stated that this group usually does not award grants to a group for more than two years. They have indicated that the Health Clinic would be receiving funds for one more year. He stated that they continue to look for dentists to offer their services to work in the clinic. They are looking at reorganizing the office in order to expand the area. Ms. Salgado 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 (Heisler, Ryan, Salgado, Peschke)

*Resolution authorizing the acceptance of \$47,441 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for a Cities Readiness initiative and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY08 budget:* Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing acceptance of \$47,441 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for a Cities Readiness initiative and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY08 budget. The acceptance of this grant will help the department improve its capacity to respond to Pandemic Flue, Strategic National Stockpile Distribution and Regional Emergency Preparedness. Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heisler to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote (Heisler, Ryan, Salgado, Peschke)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

*WIB:* Chairman Peschke informed committee members that the WIB voted to retain their current earmarks. The budget framework was voted on for overall spending for the next three years.

*HRC:* The next meeting has been scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. for those interested in attending.

*Board of Health:* Mr. McNulty noted that the next Board of Health Meeting will be held in the new Animal Control facility. Committee members questioned Mr. McNulty regarding the report concerning pharmaceuticals being found in drinking water. He stated there are a lot of unknowns regarding this and there are no mandates for testing for these items in drinking water. Filters do not remove these items and he does not know the costs involved to create a filter to remove pharmaceuticals from the water. Additional research will be needed before it is known how this will or if it affects the public. There has not been any direction on how to properly dispose of pharmaceuticals.

*Animal Control:* Animal control has moved into the Crystal Lake facility. The Breast and Cervical Cancer program has been moved into the facility as well. A grand opening/ribbon cutting event has been scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup>. County Board members, the Crystal Lake City Council and area dignitaries will be invited to the event. It was suggested that the area Chamber of Commerce member be invited as well as the Chamber does a good job getting the word out of new businesses

that have moved to the area. Committee members noted concern that they have read where a large amount of animals are being abandoned in homes that are being foreclosed on. Some of the animals are being left inside these foreclosed homes and are overwhelming animal control agencies.

Committee members questioned where a person could call to have a wild animal removed from their property. Committee members were informed that the department has a list of animal locaters available to get rid of wild animals.

Committee members questioned whether the department continues to collect aluminum cans for the department. Mr. McNulty stated they are working with the City of Crystal Lake on this issue as they do not want to violate any City ordinances. Aluminum cans continue to get dropped off at both the old and new facility. Ideas to help raise funds for the facility is being researched.

*Mental Health Board:* Chairman Peschke reminded committee members that there will be a joint Public Health & Human Services and Mental Health Board meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. at the Mental Health Board offices in Crystal Lake. Ms. Salgado noted that the Mental Health Court will be celebrating their first anniversary on April 4<sup>th</sup>. They are pushing to hire a full time assistant to help in this department.

Concerns have been voiced regarding the distribution of funds through the Mental Health Board. Some of the agencies are fearful that they are violating their State contracts and do not know who to address their concerns with. The State has been giving conflicting information. Some of these groups feel the 708 board is holding back some of their funding and using these funds for the match requirement for the Federal Grant match requirement. They feel they are taking money away from the funds that are supposed to be used by these agencies. Committee members noted that how the 708 board allocates funds are very confusing. Smaller agencies seem to be affected the most. Committee members questioned how many people have been hired to fill the requirements of the Federal Grant. They were informed that they have hired 125 individuals, who they have indicated would be retained after the grant funds are no longer received. Some of these individuals may go to other entities to work after the grant goes away as well.

Ms. Donner arrived at 9:03a.m.

*Disorderly/Noise Ordinance:* Mr. Labaj reminded committee members that the season addressing the burn ordinance is approaching soon. There was a good meeting concerning this issue on how to get information out. They are working with the Fire Protection Districts and Municipalities to get the information out to as many people as possible. Mr. LeFew has agreed to send information along with the tax bills to reach as many people as possible, with no cost to the department.

A logo has been created to "go green" which seems to be the new initiative for the year.

VAC: None

*Senior Services Grant Commission:* The previous meeting scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup> has been rescheduled to April 25<sup>th</sup>. The transportation group continues to work with Pace on the Transportation Grant. Everyone is waiting to see what happens.

*Housing Authority:* Ms. Donner reported that the Dental Program through the Housing Authority is out of money. The voucher program was a huge success. It is hopeful that some of the remaining funds from 2006 will be rolled over into additional grants. The Housing Authorizing is applying for additional grants for this program.

Mr. McNulty noted that April is "Public Health Month". A County Employee Expo is being held for County Employees on the 29<sup>th</sup> to bring awareness to global climate and green issues. The department will bring awareness to these issues and highlight what initiatives have been taken on these issues by the County. Energy Conservation and alternatives will be highlighted. Technology is moving forward quickly with the use of solar panels. Alternatives will be needed, especially with the increased costs of fuels. The County should be the lead with alternatives for energy use. Committee members asked if the Health Department had grant writers on staff. The committee members were informed that there is staff that does write grants, but, typically there is a match requirement. The match requirement comes from the regular Health Department budget, so the department has to watch which grants are applied for because of the costs from obtaining the grants. Committee members were informed that the County is trying to find out how many grants flow through the County. The Auditor's office does track and report on grants. They would like to create policies and tools surrounding grants in order to follow these grants more closely.

Mary Lou Siedel from the Housing Authority joined committee members to again highlight the request to form an Affordable Housing Commission. She informed committee members that they have been working on the housing study, which is expected to be completed in May. She stated they would like this to be a working document in conjunction with the formation of the Affordable Housing Commission. She stated that Lake County has an Affordable Housing Commission that was formed in 1991. This commission started out as a committee and is now a 24 member commission with funding coming from the County. This commission works with others in the community to create affordable housing in the County as well as address zoning issues and polices that are in place that prohibit affordable housing. Committee members stated that in the past they did not support the formation of such a large group but if maybe they need to start with a small task force to address the goals of the commission. Committee members also requested that they find out where the funds came from to start the commission in Lake County. Committee members all agreed that there is a need for affordable housing in the County and noted that there is a need for a plan of action and a group should be put together to research where to go from here. It was noted that Planning and Development needs to be involved with this issue as well. Ms. Salgado and Chairman Peschke stated they would like to be involved in the initial discussions regarding the formation of an Affordable Housing Commission. Ms. Siedel stated she would get additional information on the Lake County Affordable Housing Commission as well. Mr. Labaj noted that it is a good time to get the involvement of the Planning & Development Department as next year the department is required to create their five (5) year plan for affordable housing as well. Committee members agreed that this issue is a great mix between Planning & Development and Health.

Mr. Labaj reported that he is receiving a large amount of calls regarding Gypsy Moth spraying in the Spring. Groups and individuals are contacting him regarding the possibility of "piggy backing" onto the County's spraying program. The spraying usually takes place during the last week of May, depending on the weather.

Ms. Lewis, from the Mental Health Board informed committee members that a light dinner will be served for those attending the joint meeting.

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 acceptance of a \$25,000 grant from the Chicago Community Trust and an emergency appropriation to the Dental Care Clinic fund for FY08 budget

Resolution authorizing acceptance of \$47,441 grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health for a Cities Readiness initiative and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY08 budget

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