

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008

Chairman Peschke called the meeting to order at 8:19 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Virginia Peschke; Mary Donner; Anna May Miller and Dan Ryan. Mary McCann arrived at 8:20a.m. James Heisler arrived at 8:21a.m. Sandra Salgado was absent. Also present: John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty and Patti Nomm, Health Department and interested public.

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

MINUTES

Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to approve the Public Health & Human Services Committee minutes of May 9, 2008, as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Ms. McCann arrived at 8:20a.m.  
Mr. Heisler arrived at 8:21a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Jim Rossiter joined committee members to note his concerns over the increasing restrictions within the County. He stated he has lived in the County for a long period of time and has had a swimming pool for that same amount of time and there should be variable restrictions, based upon your property. Jim and Mary Hill joined committee members and stated that they have had a pool for over 20 years where the pool is over 500' from others and they are concerned they will not be able to use their solar cover as a heat source because the county is now placing additional restrictions upon them. They stated it is very unfair that the County is now placing additional restrictions on something they have enjoyed since 1981. They stated that if they are trying to protect something from happening they should put a requirement in place to require parents keep an eye on their kids. Ms. Hill questioned if an additional ordinance will be placed on individuals that have property with ponds and retention areas.

Committee members thanked the public for coming and addressing their concerns with the committee.

PRESENTATION: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

*Board of Health – Appointments:* Committee members were informed that there are four appointments that have terms that will expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Applications have been received from Dallas Larson and Edward Varga for consideration for reappointment to the Board of Health. Dr. Sierminiski, who filled the Dentist position on the Board, has not applied for reappointment. An application has been received from Thomas J. Skiba, DDS to fill the needed dentist position. A physician is still needed on the board. Committee members requested that the above applicants attend the next committee meeting to interview with hopes that a physician will be found to interview at that time as well.

*Pool Barrier Ordinance Amendments:* Committee members reviewed the changes to the Pool Barrier Ordinance Amendments as approved by the Board of Health. Committee members were informed that the changes have been reviewed by the States Attorney as well. Pool owners will have five years in order to be in compliance with the ordinance. Committee members were informed that this will impact 170 homeowners. The ordinance now will allow for an approved safety cover for their pool, in lieu of a fence. The cover must be closed when the pool is not in use. The ordinance eliminates all exemptions and variances previously allowed. All pool owners will be notified of the changes to the ordinance. The pool owners will be monitored on a yearly basis, with an annual reminder to become in compliance with the ordinance. After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to recommend the County Board approve an ordinance to amend the pool barrier ordinance with a request to waive the 30 day review. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote. Committee members were informed that all the villages and pool installers will be notified of the changes to the ordinance.

*Resolution authorizing acceptance of an additional \$15,000 in grant funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 budget:* Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, to recommend approval of a Resolution authorizing acceptance of an additional \$15,000 in

grant funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 budget

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

Mr. Ryan left committee at 9:27a.m.  
Ms. Miller left committee at 9:30a.m.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

VAC: None

WIB: None

HRC: Chairman Peschke noted that the HRC may meet on an "as needed" basis as they continually have a problem with obtaining a quorum for their meetings. Most of the issues being seen are within the schools, which is hard to address.

Housing Authority: None

Board of Health: Mr. McNulty informed committee members that at the next board meeting there will be an Animal Control overview presented. Chairman Peschke requested that this same overview be presented at the next Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting. The department continues to encourage the registration, vaccination and microchipping of cats. Cat registration is free. Committee members stated that the Health Ordinance needs to define what a "barn cat" is and include a low cost means to vaccinate, spay and neuter these barn cats. It was stated that hopefully the County will eventually address the registration of cats in the County. Mr. McNulty noted that McHenry County is the only one of the collar counties that does not require the registration of cats. It was noted that vaccinations of cats may be required by the State in the near future. Committee members noted that it is important to take these issues one step at a time and registration of the animals should come first. The Vets register the animals when they are brought in for their vaccinations.

Animal Control: None

Mental Health Board: Mr. Heisler reported that the Mental Health Board is holding some corporate compliance training sessions for any of those providers who deal with Medicaid funding. The Federal Government feels the Medicaid money is being used in the wrong way, so audits are being conducted at every agency where these funds are used. The Mental Health Board is trying to address the concerns of these agencies and is talking to each of the agency boards to bring awareness to this issue. Agencies will need to be very careful how they "code" their services. Other issues being discussed is the mileage reimbursement rates, because of the increased cost of fuel.

Disorderly Conduct/Noise Ordinance: The State's Attorney is reviewing where the County stands on the Disorderly Conduct/Noise Ordinance issue. The State's Attorney will be having a discussion with Planning & Development to see how an ordinance would be addressed. None of the surrounding county ordinances have been tested yet.

Senior Services Grant Commission: Mr. Labaj stated that McCog has notified him that they have recommended a person to represent them on the Senior Services Grant Commission. An application is being forwarded for consideration of the appointment. Applications for the next grant year will be available May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Heisler left committee at 9:48a.m.

Committee members voiced concern over the grant funding cuts at the Workforce Network. Most of the cuts being made will be seen in the youth programs.

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:**

Ordinance to amend the pool barrier ordinance with a request to waive the 30 day review

Resolution authorizing acceptance of an additional \$15,000 in grant funding from the Illinois Department of Human Services and an emergency appropriation to the Health Department's FY 08 budget

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