

MANAGEMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government – Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock, IL 60098

MINUTES OF TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

Chairman Schuster called the Management Services Committee meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following members present: Chairman Ersel Schuster; Tina Hill; Kathleen Bergan Schmidt; Lyn Orphal; Yvonne Barnes; Pete Merkel and Paula Yensen. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Tom Sullivan and Paul Lerner, IT; John Hadley, Facilities Management; Cathy Link, Purchasing; Nicole Gattuso, GIS; Adam Lehmann, Administration Intern; interested public and the press.

Ersel Schuster, Chairman	
Yvonne Barnes	Tina Hill
Pete Merkel	Lyn Orphal
Kathleen Bergan Schmidt	Paula Yensen

MINUTE APPROVAL

Committee members reviewed the Management Services Committee minutes of September 8, 2009. Ms. Yensen made a motion, seconded by Ms. Orphal to approve the minutes as submitted. The minutes were approved with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PRESENTATION

Greater Rockford Area Fiber Optic System (GRAFOS) Tom Sullivan: Mr. Sullivan joined committee members to discuss the Greater Rockford Area Fiber Optics System (GRAFOS) project that was started by NIU. Grants have become available to lay cable all over the country. A gentleman at the last County Board meeting presented a similar project. A meeting has been set to discuss whether this gentleman is working on a similar project or working for the competition. Mr. Sullivan has been working for over a year with NIU on a project to lay fiber optic lines within the County. A four county consortium was formed between NIU, McHenry, Stevenson, Boone and Winnebago Counties make this project a possibility. NIU heard about and applied for a grant in early July to help accomplish the costs for the initial connect for government entities, hospitals and schools. There are 541 community anchor facilities that could be involved in the project with 273 of these being in McHenry County. This grant would allow for the fiber to get placed in the ground for connection to county buildings as well as libraries, post offices, schools, government buildings, police and fire departments. The County alone spends over \$300,000 per year for telephone service. Once the high speed networks are available, streaming will be easier. Stephenson County wanted to join the consortium in order to link the two hospitals in the area to each other. It currently takes them over 4 hours to transfer data between the two hospitals. With this fiber optic link it would take 15 minutes. There will be a cost to be involved but, the initial investment would be paid back pretty fast. The majority of the fiber would be placed underground. Right now money is not being requested, just letters of support for the project. The project will cost approximately \$71 million dollars. The grant would pay for \$57 million dollars of the project. The State would be responsible for \$5 million dollars and local match would be just over \$9 million dollars, which will be divided among all entities and each of the four counties. The projected cost for businesses would be a \$10,000 fee which would be the cost for connection. Presentations have been made to the Schools and Township Supervisors. Additional presentation are being planned and scheduled. This project will allow for better service and will allow for an investment towards long tern internet connections. This project will not be limited to government entities. Buy in will be allowed for businesses as well and may possibly attract more businesses to the County. The initial costs would pay for the infrastructure. There may be some maintenance fees in the future to maintain the network and provide upgrades as they come along. This would make everyone less dependent on cable. Another suggestion has been to request highway departments to lay conduit when working on major highways so when lines are ready to be run it will be easier to lay the lines. Mr. Sullivan asked if the committee felt this should be presented to the County Board. They stated it would be a good idea for presentation and to get the press involved to create awareness about the project. Committee members noted this would be a great tool for the EDC as well and this project would be a good way for the County to stay competitive within the United States and well as worldwide.

Strategic Plan Performance Measurement Report Card: Mr. Austin informed committee members that the Strategic Plan Performance Measurement Report Card is now available on line. This report card includes 21 measures that tie back to the Strategic Plan. It is a tool to be used to hold ourselves accountable. This will show the progress over the next 2 1/3 years and show the tracking of items included in the Strategic Plan. Committee members questioned including integrated justice on this list since there are ongoing issues with the implementation of the programs. It was stated that this item should remain on the list, but they shouldn't be date specific items listed. There is a core group that has been put together to review the Strategic Plan and how to use the tools associated with the plan. A presentation will be made to the County Board regarding the report card and at that time the County Board members will be shown how to monitor the progress of the Strategic Plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution setting the 2010 meeting dates for the McHenry County Board: Committee members reviewed a Resolution setting the 2010 meeting dates for the McHenry County Board. Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Orphal to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

New mandatory reporting requirement for Medicare set-aside accounts: Mr. Labaj reminded committee members of a previous discussion regarding rule changes for set aside accounts for Workers Compensation cases. Because of the requirements there will be more intense reporting and the County will have to register as an RRE (Responsible reporting entity). Reports will be due on a quarterly basis. Mr. Labaj stated that the county will be registered by the end of the month. If reporting is not done on a timely basis, there are significant penalties. Risk Management will be responsible for implementing these reports.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Administrator: Mr. Austin reported that he is in the process of writing the County Board report. He has also been busy working on the budget. They have begun the process to start the search for the new Chief County Assessor. The Groundwater Management Policies will be discussed this Friday at the Natural and Environmental Resources Committee meeting. An open house will be scheduled for presentation of the 2030 plan. This will be discussed further during the next committee meeting.

McCog: None

Ms. Hill and Ms. Orphal left committee at 9:30a.m.

Mr. Sullivan stated that the GIS department was able to obtain aerial photos this year of the County. He stated that the photos take a large chunk of space on the current system. The photos are useful to many county departments. If aerial photos are taken again next year the department will need additional funding to expand the current space on the system.

Mr. Lehmann presented some McHenry County Media Relations Objectives to committee members for review. He has been reviewing Standard Operating Procedures, tools and techniques needed for media exposure. He stated he will discuss these items at a future committee meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:31.m. on a motion by Ms. Yensen, seconded by Ms. Barnes with all members present voting aye.

RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION

Resolution setting the 2010 meeting dates for the McHenry County Board

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