

**MCHEMRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS**  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011**  
**2:00 P.M.**  
**MCHEMRY COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**16111 NELSON ROAD**  
**WOODSTOCK, IL 60098**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS (SIGN-IN SHEET)**

President Rick Mack, Chair of the McHenry County Council of Mayors, called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. The meeting was held at the McHenry County Division of Transportation located at 16111 Nelson Road in Woodstock, IL 60098. A quorum was in attendance. Attendance was as follows:

**Members Present:**

Rick Mack, Chair, Village of Ringwood  
Joshua Blakemore, City of Marengo  
Cameron Davis, Village of Cary  
Wally Dittrich, McHenry County  
Phyllis Keinz, Village of Bull Valley  
Robert Kosin, Village of Barrington Hills  
Bob Mitchard, Village of Algonquin  
Dave Nelson, City of Harvard  
Deborah Nier, City of Marengo  
Catherine Peterson, Village of Lakewood  
Victor Ramirez, City of Crystal Lake  
Gerald Sagona, Village of Lake in the Hills  
Rob Scardino, Village of Huntley  
Jon Schmitt, City of McHenry  
Jeannine Smith, Village of Prairie Grove

**Others Present:**

Bunny Anderson, Illinois Tollway  
Todd Bright, Transystems  
Akram Chaudhry, SEC/HR Green  
Steve Cieslica, Trotter & Associates  
Charles Cole, CMT  
Mary L. Donner, Pace  
Alex Househ, IDOT  
Paul Lerner, McHenry County IT Dept.  
Diane Lukas, HLR, Inc.  
David Johnson, HR Green  
George Johnson, CMAP  
Mark Johnson, Ciorba Group, Inc.  
Erik Morimoto, City of Crystal Lake

Ron Naylor, EEI  
Sue Palmer, IDOT  
Steve Pasinski, Thomas Engineering Group  
Brian Plum, TCC  
Andy Plummer, RTA  
Chad Riddle, IDOT  
Brad Sanderson, EEI  
Kevin Stallworth, IDOT  
Roger Swenson, Northern Illinois University  
Dave Van Camp, HR Green  
Abby Wilgreen, City of Crystal Lake  
Martin Worman, Christopher Burke Engineering  
Chalen Daigle, McHenry County Council of Mayors

**B. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Chair Mack asked for a motion to approve the January 20, 2011 meeting agenda. *Mr. Davis moved for approval. Ms. Peterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

**C. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 18, 2010**

Chair Mack asked for a motion to approve the November 18, 2010 meeting minutes. *Mr. Blakemore made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Ramirez seconded the motion which passed unanimously.*

**II. PROGRAM & AGENCY UPDATES**

**A. IDOT Highway Report**

Ms. Palmer provided the status sheets which included projects on the January letting. She also included the status sheets of all awarded projects. Ms. Palmer noted that the Algonquin Bypass continues to move forward and that demo contracts are included on the January letting with the hope of starting construction later this year.

**B. RTA**

Mr. Plummer noted that Joe Costello was chosen as the new Executive Director of the RTA. Mr. Costello was previously the CFO. Mr. Plummer said that the RTA is hosting regional performance measure workshops and that information will be sent to the Council. He also noted that the RTA passed a budget in December for 2011 which is similar to 2010. Although ridership is down 2%, the yield from sales tax is level at \$900 million.

Mr. Plummer said that the RTA is looking to revamp the Free Rides for Seniors program to catch those abusing the program. The RTA is proposing a program where Seniors over the age of 65 ride for ½ fare. 40% of seniors are still riding for free. Mr. Plummer also distributed information about the Bus Rapid Transit Market Research Project.

**C. McHenry County Division of Transportation**

Mr. Dittrich informed the Council that the Rakow Road project will start next month with a groundbreaking on February 7. McDOT continues to work on the IL 176 @ Walkup Road and Virginia @ IL 31 projects. Mr. Dittrich also said that the County will be starting reconstruction on several bridge projects this year.

**D. Fiber Optic Presentation**

Mr. Lerner introduced Mr. Swenson who spoke about the County's fiber optic program. McHenry County is partnering with NIU to seek data on fiber optic connections throughout the County. Schools, government facilities and libraries could be tied together with fiber optic cables. Mr. Swenson encouraged municipalities to consider taking part in the program and to take steps to include fiber optics in road projects. Mr. Dittrich provided the example of Rakow Road. Since the road will be under construction and have utility access underway, they would be including fiber optic cables with the utility work.

Ms. Smith asked if IDOT is implementing this program. Mr. Riddle said that IDOT can include this as part of construction and that the State would pay for it. Mr. Sagona asked who would be responsible if repairs needed to be made. Mr. Swenson said that the municipalities would be responsible. Mr. Austin asked that the Council and municipalities support the program. More information, including a map, will be emailed to the Council.

**E. Pace**

Ms. Donner said that Pace is still in the process of installing road signs and that Pace continues to work with McDOT on the Tri-City Dial-A-Ride program which includes the cities of Woodstock, Crystal Lake and McHenry.

**F. Metra**

Chair Mack said that although ridership has decreased, Metra does see ridership increasing as gas prices rise. Chair Mack said that next month Metra will obtain bids for the Fox River Grove train station rehabilitation project which includes new platforms and a warming shelter.

**G. Illinois Tollway**

Ms. Anderson provided the Illinois Tollway update including an updated map. She noted that as part of their 2011 program, \$105 million of the \$192 million budgeted for the Congestion Relief Program will be spent on I-90. Ms. Anderson said that the Illinois Tollway has signed a new three year partnership with NBC Chicago and Fox for access to I-Pass cameras. Lastly she said that when the weather is below zero, additional help trucks will be added to the system to help customers.

**H. IDOT STP Local Program**

Mr. Househ provided the updated IDOT STP Local Program. Several projects were delayed due to right of way issues. Ms. Smith asked what exactly that meant. Mr. Househ said that in most cases right of way was underway, but not completed.

### **III. CHICAGO METROPOLITAN AGENCY FOR PLANNING (CMAP) / COUNCIL OF MAYORS**

#### **A. Executive Committee Report**

The Council of Mayors Executive Committee will meet in February.

#### **B. CMAP Report**

Mr. Johnson provided the following items for the CMAP report:

- CMAP unveiled [www.metropulsechicago.org](http://www.metropulsechicago.org) which is a regional data source based on census data.
- CMAP's Planning Assistance Program will be starting shortly. Any interested municipalities can contact CMAP.
- CMAP is hosting an Economic Development workshop on January 24 at the Hilton in Lisle. The cost is \$65.
- CMAP will be hosting Planning Commissioner Workshops this year with two in Lake County in April, one in southwest Cook County in late April/early May and one in DuPage County in May.
- The Energy Retrofit Ramp-up program is still underway and has \$25 million in available funding.
- Programs with Stormwater Management Workshop – January 22 at 9:00 a.m.

### **IV. MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS / STP PROGRAM**

#### **A. Project Status Updates & Programming Future**

Ms. Daigle started the conversation noting that all projects listed in the program had submitted a project status update with updated project costs and letting information. Mr. Ramirez added that he sees no problem with advance funding for projects that are ready to go. Mr. Riddle added that although the funding would have to be paid back, there is no downside to advance funding right now. Mr. Blakemore asked how the census may affect our funding levels. Ms. Daigle said that she anticipates our funding levels increasing due to increased population, but that it would likely not be much.

Mr. Riddle explained that when do not approve advance funding that the program will become stagnant and slow down. Phase II plans will be shelved and that there will be a backlog of projects. He said that he never discourages advance funding because prices do go up.

Chair Mack asked if a cap on advance funding would be beneficial. Mr. Johnson said that all advance funding requests depend on the Council of Mayors Executive Committee and that the Executive Committee wants to know what kind of projects are out there. Mr. Riddle added that the

Executive Committee has never said no to a request, but that Councils themselves have turned down requests.

Ms. Peterson said that although she is very concerned about the future of the program and the possibility of funding not being available for future projects, she believes all requests should be left up to the Executive Committee. Mr. Nelson concurred. Mr. Blakemore asked how or if we could approve all funding increases and how that would affect our program. Ms. Daigle said that any advance funding would not be approved until the project is ready to go. Ms. Daigle agreed to put together language for the Council to note when a project is actually ready to go.

*With a motion by Ms. Peterson and a second by Mr. Nelson, the Council voted to approve all projects on the program at their updated funding amounts and letting schedule. All voted aye, except Ms. Smith voted nay and Mr. Sagona abstained. Motion passed.*

- B. Approval of FFY 11-15 Surface Transportation Program**  
*The program did not need approval per Agenda Item IV A's approval.*

**V. PLANNING LIAISON REPORT**

Ms. Daigle distributed that Municipal Representative Survey.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Sagona asked if there was a way to warrant the additional funding for the projects. Ms. Daigle said she would talk to the other Planning Liaisons to see if they have any criteria for cost increases, etc. She would also look at the percentage increases to see if any are extraordinary.

**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at the Lake in the Hills Village Hall located at 600 Harvest Gate in Lake in the Hills.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 p.m.*