

**MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2011
2:00 P.M.
MCHENRY 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 2:05 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
Manny Gomez, Village of Lake in the Hills
John Isbell, City of Woodstock
Catherine Peterson, Village of Lakewood
Rob Scardino, Village of Huntley
Abby Wilgreen, City of Crystal Lake
Jeff Young McHenry County Division of Transportation
Michele Zimmerman, Village of Algonquin

Others Present:

Bradley Cousins, McDOT
Kama Dobbs, CMAP
Dangle Dran, IDOT
Alex Househ, IDOT
Mark Johnson, Ciorba Group, Inc.
Jim Lenzini, EEI
Sue Palmer, IDOT
Brian Plum, TCC
Andy Plummer, RTA
Dan Strahan, Gewalt Hamilton Assoc.
Steve Travia, IDOT
Chalen Daigle, McHenry County Council of Mayors

B. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Chair Mack asked for a motion to approve the September 15, 2011 meeting agenda. *Mr. Young moved for approval. Mr. Scardino seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

C. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JULY 21, 2011

Chair Mack asked for a motion to approve the July 21, 2011 meeting minutes. *Mr. Young made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Scardino seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

II. PROGRAM & AGENCY UPDATES

A. IDOT Highway Report

Ms. Palmer provided the IDOT status sheets which included the most recent IDOT letting. She noted that the 2013-2018 Program Open House would be September 21 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Crystal Lake Holiday Inn. Ms. Palmer also said the Algonquin Bypass Phase II is working towards a spring letting.

B. IDOT Bureau of Traffic Signal Discussion

Mr. Strahan informed the Council that he was representing the Village of Barrington Hills who had questions and concerns about battery back-up traffic signals during extended power outages. He noted that there were five outages this summer along Routes 62/68/59 which carries 34,000 cars a day. This led to major traffic delays.

Mr. Cousins distributed a map and information about the County's traffic signal backups. He explained that the County uses UPS (Uninterruptable Power System) signals that were installed in 2005 on two problematic intersections. McHenry County was one of the first to install these UPS signals and 21 more systems were installed in 2006 and 34 signals are currently in use today. The system avoids the red flash and allows the signals to keep working as normal. Ms. Peterson asked about costs. Mr. Cousin's said they cost between \$7000 - \$9000 per unit. Mr. Isbell asked about the handout and questioned how there were 14 outages for 0 hours and Mr. Cousins said that that means the signal was out for less than five seconds.

Mr. Strahan asked if there were any outages where the battery backup ran out and Mr. Cousins said there were four signals that were out because they were out longer than a day. Ms. Wilgreen said the City of Crystal Lake had battery backups that ran for 4-6 hours and then went dead. Generators were used after that.

Mr. Travia informed the Council that IDOT is working to install UPS on all signals and that the program is 20% complete. He also noted IDOT maintains 4300 signals so it could take some time to convert all the signals; however the program should be complete in the next three years statewide. Mr. Travia noted that they strive to keep their system moving and are working on smaller areas first and will then move into the Metro areas.

Ms. Wilgreen noted that the City of Crystal Lake looked into a grant to pay for signals along state routes to help pay for some of the cost. Mr. Travia said the grant is a match program to upgrade to LED and is for \$20,000. A 5% match from the community is required.

Mr. Plummer added the Larry Bury at the Northwest Municipal Conference has information about how ComEd plans to address the recent outages.

C. RTA

Mr. Plummer said that the RTA is still assisting seniors through the end of the Free Rides for Senior's program. The number of calls has increased so the RTA has increased their customer service department. Mr. Plummer said one of the complaints is that the card is a swipe card and not a smart card. He noted that a smart card would have costs significantly more money.

In regards to the RTA lawsuit, the RTA is asking some communities affected to join. The primary goal is to see how much money is being diverted and stop the diversion of money. He said that getting the money back isn't necessarily the focus. Mr. Plummer said the RTA is working with state legislators to close the loophole.

D. McHenry County Division of Transportation

Mr. Young said that the Rakow Road project is going nicely and that the concrete base will be poured this week. He explained that the Walkup Road project is completed and that the bike path is getting a lot of use which is great. Mr. Young pointed out that the new status sheets have upcoming public meetings and information about the County's Long Range Transportation Plan including an interactive website, www.2040McHenryCountyPlan.org

E. Pace

Ms. Donner was unable to attend the meeting, but Ms. Daigle read her report which included: Mayor Shepley was recently highlighted in a WCIU short piece (You and Me in the Morning) which featured the MCRide program of Dial-A-Ride. The video should be online soon. The second item was that Pace will be hold a public hearing on their budget on Tuesday, October 18 from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Crystal Lake City Council Chambers.

F. Metra

Chair Mack said that Metra will be discussing their 2012 budget at the Metra Board meeting the following day and that Metra would be releasing information about service cuts and/or fare increases in September or October. Chair Mack noted that the yearly public hearing will be the first Wednesday of October from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in Woodstock.

G. Illinois Tollway

There was no Illinois Tollway report.

H. IDOT STP Local Program

Mr. Househ provided the updated IDOT STP Local Program.

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

A. Executive Committee Report

The next Council of Mayors Executive Committee meeting will be November 8, 2011.

B. CMAP Report

Ms. Dobbs provided the following items for the CMAP report:

- The FFY 11 Suburban Expenditure report was distributed.
- Information about the Go To 2040 project implementation program is online at www.cmap.illinois.gov.
- Fall Plan Commissioner workshops are scheduled for this fall at various locations in the region. More workshops will be scheduled in the spring.

IV. MCHENRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF MAYORS / STP PROGRAM

A. Project Move Requests

Ms. Daigle said there were four project move requests. The four requests were: East Wonder Lake year change from FY 2013 to FY 2012, City of Crystal Lake's McHenry Avenue move from FY 2013 to FY 2012 and Crystal Lake Avenue & Main Street move from MYB to FY 2013 and Village of Algonquin's Edgewood Drive move from FY 2013 to FY 2012.

Mr. Young moved for approval of the project move requests. Ms. Zimmerman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

B. Project Updates

Ms. Daigle distributed the project and advance funding update and encouraged anyone with questions to talk with her.

C. FFY 11-15 Surface Transportation Program

Mr. Young moved for approval of the program. Ms. Peterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. PLANNING LIAISON REPORT

There was no Planning Liaison report.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. at the McHenry City Hall located at 333 S. Green Street in McHenry.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A was made by Ms. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Young to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m.