

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

MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2010

Chairman Orphal called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Chairman Lyn Orphal; Randy Donley; Mary McCann; Anna May Miller and Mary Donner. Virginia Peschke and Sandra Salgado arrived at 9:33a.m.. Also present: County Board Chairman, Ken Koehler; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Pat McNulty, Health; Sandy Lewis and Jane Wacker, Mental Health Board; Kristy Hecke, Environmental Health; Salvatore Cali and Preska Parkap, UIC-School of Public Health; interested public and the press.

Lyn Orphal, Chairman	
Mary L. Donner	Randy Donley
Mary T. McCann	Anna May Miller
Virginia Peschke	Sandra Salgado

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed the committee minutes of June 9, 2010 and June 15, 2010. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Donley, to approve the minutes of June 9, 2010 and June 15, 2010 as submitted. The minutes were approved with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution authorizing an Emergency Appropriation in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget for the Mental Health Building Expansion Project Fund: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing an Emergency Appropriation in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget for the Mental Health Building Expansion Project Fund. Committee members were informed that the building project has stated and this resolution will allow the project to enter the County budget system. The fund balance enhancement will run into the next fiscal year. After discussion, Ms. Miller made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to recommend approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Donner McCann, Miller, Orphal)

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Mental Health Board: Ms. Lewis reported that the board has approved their FY2011 guidelines. This is the first time funding has been dedicated to first time applications. They will continue funding for current services. The Board also approved funds to be transferred from YSB to Pioneer Center. Committee members thanked Ms. Lewis for her update.

They are completing the preliminary plans for the building project and will be accepting bids for the sub-contractors in the near future. Committee members were informed that if anyone would like to be added to the sub-contractor list for consideration, they should contact Charles River, who is the general contractor for the job.

NEW BUSINESS CONT

Requests for Comprehensive Solid Waste Removal Franchising: Committee members were informed that the current solid waste removal franchising agreement has been a success. Approximately 4,000 homes are currently has a contract for an exclusive hauler for their area. Since the beginning of this program complaints have fallen drastically. This has also addressed complaints received for open burning and disposal options. Because of the success of the program five (5) other subdivisions have contacted the department to see how they can get included in this program. These five subdivisions include 1,200 residents. Requests are based on economic benefits seen in this other area. They are requesting the department help with an agreement on their behalf. The current subdivision has a 94% participation rate with only 12 complaints received to date. These concerns have been addressed immediately by the vendor. Recycling in this area is at 38% compared to the County rate of 31%. This number is expected to increase in the Fall. Overall the subdivision has less truck traffic with pick up being handled by one truck once a week. The department will be focusing on the education

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component of the program to inform the residents of the different components to the program. They will schedule meetings with the new subdivisions in the near future. The subdivisions will have time to give some feedback regarding any questions they might have. The NERC (Natural and Environmental Resources Committee) questioned the up front and staff cost for this program. They were informed that these costs are covered by not having to address complaints or enforcement issues. The consensus of the committee was to survey the residents of these subdivisions.

Resolution authorizing Acceptance of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #10-653002 and Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to the McHenry County Workforce Network Fiscal Year 2009 Budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing Acceptance of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #10-653002 and Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to the McHenry County Workforce Network Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to recommend approval of the above Resolution as submitted. This resolution will allow staff to administrate the trade program. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Donner McCann, Miller, Orphal)

Resolution authorizing Acceptance of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #10-071002 and Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to the McHenry County Workforce Network Fiscal Year 2009 Budget: Committee members reviewed a Resolution authorizing Acceptance of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #10-071002 and Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to the McHenry County Workforce Network Fiscal Year 2009 Budget. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to recommend approval of the above Resolution as submitted. Committee members were informed that the funding has come from the Department of Human Services Recovery Act funds to fund a smaller program for the Summer Youth program. These funds will be geared towards the food stamp population youth. The majority of the funds go directly to pay the youths wages. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote Donley, Donner McCann, Miller, Orphal)

Ms. Salgado arrived at 9:33a.m.

PRESENTATION

McCullom Lake – UIC Update (discussion): Mr. Salvatore Cali and Preka Parkap from UIC School of Public Health, joined committee members to discuss the McCullom Lake issue and the CDC response received by the County. The County is looking to look further at the issue to help the community so they can show there is nothing to fear in their community. Chairman Koehler stated that when he met with Leslie Strainer with the UIC Health Department, he recommended Chairman Koehler speak with an Industrial Hygienist at UIC to find out what they would recommend. It was previously suggested that an environmental study be completed. Unfortunately a IDPH/UIC Health Hazard Evaluation will not be performed due to administrative reasons. Mr. Cali, the Senior Industrial Hygienist from the University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Public Health stated they could assist by being a neutral observer and provide education to interested persons living in the area. The education would be about their experience and knowledge about sites that have real or perceived environmental contamination issues. This could be handled via a public forum or public information meeting. They stated that it would be impossible to guarantee 100% safety in a dirty world. Because of the lawsuits, it creates limitations because of the lack of access to information. Committee members were informed that the McHenry County Department of Health has done annual analysis of the wells/water in the area for the past four (4) to five (5) years. They followed the parameters from the contamination areas as well. These tests were completed at a State licensed facility and all protocols were followed. The University could teach how to set up any studies to have the Health Department complete some additional studies. The soil and air in the area has not been as this is beyond the capacity of the Department. Tests are not completed unless there is a credible mode of exposure and at times these types of studies could create additional questions, especially with exposures from 25 to 30 years ago. Chairman Koehler stated that they are currently worried about issues/concerns now and what can be done to let the residents know that the area is okay. Mr. Cali stated that the County has the unenviable task of making sure the area is okay. If the County can develop theories, and if the source of the exposure is what their theories were based on, then they can test if these theories are correct. They would have to know the exact chemicals they are dealing with and then they would have to determine if this community is cleaner than a neighboring community. Mr. Cali has offered to meet with Public Health officials or people in the community to help answer some of their questions. This would have to be a well thought out meeting as it could create more issues. If an area shows a contamination the IEPA comes in immediately. They previously thought the contamination was from the groundwater but the flow of the water did not go into McCullom Lake. Information regarding tests has been posted on the community website as well as in local newspapers. They stated it is important to keep the message simple and come up with an easy document that the residents can use to show they live in a safe area. A source of contamination has not been identified. Residents usually do not test for contamination unless there has been a

reason to do so. Concerns were voiced that there has never been a definitive statement that says, "there is a cancer cluster in McCullom Lake". Everyone keeps saying there is not enough data available. This leaves the residents in a difficult position, especially while trying to sell their home. Initially, the lawsuit filed was based on groundwater contamination, when the tests showed there was not any trace of any of the suspected chemicals found in the water, they included air in their lawsuit. Committee members stated they need to hold additional discussions regarding where to go from here. Committee members voiced frustration that they are unable to move forward until completion of the court action. Education will be the big issue for the community and how to answer questions from the residents. There is a perception there is "something" out there causing issues. We don't know that and all we can state is what questions has been answered. The county and community need to address how to move forward from here.

Ms. McCann left committee at 9:47a.m.

Ms. Miller left committee at 9:48a.m.

Ms. Donner left committee at 10:05a.m.

It was suggested that a town hall meeting be held in the community with McCullom Lake officials as well as representatives from the Health Department and UIC to help in the education effort in the community. The group would need to figure out what questions should be asked.

Committee members stated it is important to find out where we go from here. Committee members asked that UIC/McCullom Lake – Where do we go from here, placed on the next committee agenda for discussion.

Committee members thanked Mr. Cali and Ms. Preska for their attendance at today's meeting.

Mr. Austin informed committee that the Valley Hi Operating Board held their first Meeting. Reports will be forwarded to this committee. This will require that the County Board Rules be changed. The Valley Hi Operating Board will hold one additional meeting with the Valley Hi Committee before moving forward. Committee members requested that Valley Hi be added to their reports to the committee.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE CONT

Workforce Network/WIB: none.

Board of Health: None

Housing Authority: None.

Senior Services Grant Commission: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

OTHER BUSINESS, AS APPLICABLE

None

ADJOURNMENT

Noting no further business, Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Donley to adjourn the meeting at 10:11a.m.a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION:

Resolution authorizing an Emergency Appropriation in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget for the Mental Health Building Expansion Project Fund

Resolution authorizing Acceptance of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #10-653002 and Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to the McHenry County Workforce Network Fiscal Year 2009 Budget

Resolution authorizing Acceptance of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant #10-071002 and Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation to the McHenry County Workforce Network Fiscal Year 2009 Budget