

MCHENRY COUNTY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING
JULY 20, 2010

Chairman of the Board – Kenneth D. Koehler (District 2)

District 1 Yvonne M. Barnes Robert Bless Anna May Miller Marc Munaretto	District 2 J.S. "Scott" Breeden James Heisler Kenneth Koehler Lyn Orphal	District 3 Mary L Donner Ed Dvorak Kathleen Bergan Schmidt Barbara Wheeler
District 4 Sue Draffkorn John Hammerand Pete Merkel Sandra Fay Salgado	District 5 Tina Hill James P Kennedy Virginia Peschke Paula Yensen	District 6 Randall Donley Mary T McCann Daniel P Ryan Ersel C Schuster

The Honorable County Board of McHenry County, Illinois met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 20, 2010.

Chairman Koehler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by County Clerk Katherine Schultz with Members of the Board, department heads and visitors participating. Ms. Donner gave the invocation/personal remarks.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by County Clerk Katherine Schultz. The following members responded: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breeden, Donley, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. Parliamentarian Jamie Rein was present. Chairman Koehler declared a quorum present with twenty (20) members responding.

MINUTES

Minutes of County Board Regular Session meetings of June 15th and July 6th 2010.

Mr. Heisler made a motion seconded by Ms. McCann to approve County Board minutes of June 15 and July 6.

Chairman Koehler asked if there were any changes/corrections to the minutes. Ms. Schuster noted three typo errors on the June 15th minutes that will be corrected.

Noting no other correction, Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it, he declared the motion to approve County Board minutes of June 15th as corrected and July 6th as presented has passed.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

Chairman Koehler thanked Mr. Dvorak for joining him in attending the funeral of Staff Sgt. Christopher Antonik. He is passing around the memorial that they had for him because it is quite interesting and touching. Also, he told the board that one of our county employees passed away on July 12th, Kim Hoerrman. She was 47 years old and worked as the Business Manager at Valley Hi. Chairman Koehler noted that Judge Chmiel and his family had been in a serious accident and he's happy to report that Judge Chmiel is doing well and hopes to be released from the hospital soon and that his family members are recovering at home. The Chairman said he just got word that Mr. Kennedy had heat stroke today at work so that is why he isn't here tonight. The Chairman asked for a moment of silence in memory of those who have passed and those healing at this time. Chairman Koehler told the board that he, Mr. Austin and Mr. Sandquist met with people from Loyola University who have taken ownership of the Resurrection Retreat Center. He believes this is a great opportunity for McHenry County and is happy that Loyola is working with the Village of Bull Valley as well as the neighbors to let them know what their plans are for the property. They are planning on bringing some of their ecological sciences to the county. The Chairman passed out their booklet for members to take a look at.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION/REPORTS

Mr. Ryan made a motion seconded by Mr. Heisler to approve the following Eagle Scout recognition:
Brian Bocian of Huntley Troop 167

Chairman Koehler asked for a voice vote, the ayes having it he declared the motion passed.

Chairman Koehler asked Brian to come forward and presented him with his Certificate and a miniature county flag. Brian explained the project he did to earn his Eagle Scout badge and thanked the County Board for this recognition.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Agriculture Conservation Easement Farmland Protection Comm (ACE) – Harry Alten, Dave Brandt & Dave LaGue

Mr. Alten came forward to make a few comments noting that farming is not a recession proof business however they keep moving forward and the farming industry is basically one of the largest in the United States employing about 24% of the people in the U.S. that is considering everyone that is employed because of agriculture. He thanked the board for allowing this presentation and invited Mr. Brandt to come forward.

Mr. Brandt came forward to speak and gave a power point presentation. In 2007 the census showed that McHenry County had 1,035 farms and that agriculture is the third largest business industry in McHenry County. He agreed with Mr. Alten that agriculture is a business and there are several benefits, one being surface water quality and with groundwater being imperative to McHenry County this is important however he said we need to be careful as 70% of McHenry County lies within 100 feet of an aquifer/a shallow aquifer. He said that McHenry County has been blessed with prime farmland soils and it's important that this is used appropriately noting that our soils have the ability to produce the most with the least amount of input. He pointed out that farmers generally have buffers around their farmland and these are their scrubland and wildlife habitat. Mr. Brandt went on to talk about agricultural easements and farming processes within the county and added how important it is to protect and preserve the agricultural landscape that McHenry County has. At this point Mr. Brandt introduced Dave LaGue, a farmer from Marengo. Mr. LaGue came forward and talked about the meaning of agriculture within the county which is different things to different people. Mr. LaGue said agriculture doesn't just benefit farmers', it's a program that benefits the county as a whole. He talked about barns around the county and about groundwater in association with farmers. He thanked the board for forming ACE as it is a beneficial commission to all of us.

Chairman Koehler asked if there were any questions. Ms. Wheeler asked Ms. Beyer-Clow, who works with open lands and does a lot of our bidding down in Springfield, for an update on our efforts to get something passed to support farmland protection. Ms. Beyer-Clow acknowledged our local senator and representatives who championed this bill in Springfield for us. It has been moved twice through the Senate and the bill gives counties the authority to go to referendum to ask their voters if they're willing to support farmland protection with an increase in their property taxes. The Bill made it through the Senate then went to the House committees where it died there by a close vote. She said they continue to work on it to get it through. Ms. Peschke mentioned that the idea behind the referendum is not to fully fund it with county funds but that there is a federal match and that's what is important. In Kane County there has been a lot of this program going on but it's been funded through the riverboat which has given them the money that is then matched with federal money. Chairman Koehler thanked everyone for their presentation and hard work on this issue.

ZBA CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if anyone wished to remove a petition, there were none.

Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Mr. Dvorak to approve the following Petitions:

Exb #09-39; Algonquin Twp; John W Lunkes; reclass A1-A1V

Exb #10-19; Nunda Twp; Jennifer Swets; reclass R1-R1V

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Noting none, he asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breeden, Donley, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. The vote being twenty (20) ayes noting four (4) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

PLATS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairman Koehler said 12.1 and 12.2 would be voted on after executive session.

APPOINTMENTS

None

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN UPDATES

Ms. Schuster told the board that Cathy Link, Purchasing Dept Director, held a seminar Doing Business with McHenry County. It was very well received with about 58 businesses coming through.

Ms. Barnes told the board that Law & Justice will have an extra meeting on August 16th to discuss the budget.

ROUTINE CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Koehler asked if anyone wished to remove an item from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Hammerand removed item #15.2 B6. Mr. Munaretto noted that item #15.2 B8 had some corrections and a new copy is on everyone's desks.

Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Ms. Barnes to approve the Routine Consent Agenda with one item removed.

Noting no discussion, Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breedon, Donley, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. The vote being twenty (20) ayes noting four (4) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

15.2 B6 Resolution authorizing the reclassification of the Animal Control Division Manager and budget line item transfers in the Health Department's fiscal year 2009-2010

Mr. Munaretto made a motion seconded by Ms. Salgado to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Mr. Hammerand said he felt the basic concept of this is good, to put one veterinarian in charge and have him be the manager, but when this was talked about in finance his understanding was that we were going to keep Dr. Mehanovic (Dr. M) as well to do the administration duties. The Chairman said the intent, he believes, will be to eventually eliminate that position. Mr. McNulty said the choice will be up to the County Board as to how to proceed as it has been laid out to go either direction. They have talked to Dr. M. about this and where it might ultimately end up and he is in full understanding. The Chairman said we will be saving money in vet costs that we are paying to outside sources. Mr. Hammerand said he agrees with that but what troubles him is that at this point we're talking about hiring a full time person but not making the decision to eliminate the part-time position that Dr. M. holds. He would prefer that this came to the board as a whole plan with one person in charge with a timetable in place for this to happen. Having two positions there holding power could have misunderstandings. Chairman Koehler said this is the goal to have only one person but there is training that needs to be done. One of the bigger issues that the administrator deals with is euthanasia and those are issues that could be hard if they haven't been involved with that before. Mr. McNulty said the person that they are looking at has full knowledge and experience in this area. What needs to be clear is that we need to have someone on board and this is our opportunity to do that. The Administrator is an appointment made by the County Board but the Manager is an employee of the Health Department, so there are two distinct people that we have had in the past that can be combined into one. Mr. McNulty said a decision needs to be made on filling the manager position at this point because they will be without someone shortly. Dr. Mehanovic is working on a month to month basis right now. Ms. Miller commented that there were discussions at Public Health that at one time two distinct positions were important but over time things have changed and now it is felt from the Health Department's perspective that the person that came forward could very comfortably take on the roll as Animal Control Administrator and Manager when determined. Mr. Donley said at the Health Committee meeting he thought what they were voting on was to combine the positions at this time. He's uncomfortable with it not being this way because of the salary being given for one position. Mr. McNulty said salary was discussed with the applicants that this is where we were hoping to go. He said that they didn't want to assume that the County Board would accept this person as the board has the choice of appointment. He feels the person that's been chosen will work out very well and he hopes that the board would appointment him when it comes up. Chairman Koehler said Animal Control must have a veterinarian on staff and it's important that the candidate they are wanting is a fit. Mr. Munaretto said that the Finance Committee asked that Mr. McNulty provide them with a cost benefit analysis, and although they received some supplemental information, they didn't receive a cost benefit. He asked if this information was available as they would like to make an informed decision on this. Mr. McNulty responded that Dr. Mehanovic's current contract is \$57,000 and they are proposing to reduce that contract to \$27,000; the current amount they would need to finish this fiscal year is a little over \$10,000; there will be a net savings of about \$17,000 within this fiscal year which was the information provided to committee

members. The Chairman said that does not include what we are paying in additional veterinary charges. Mr. McNulty said they are paying an additional \$30,000 in outside veterinarian costs and have currently exceeded their line item for vet costs for this year and it is their feeling this is one way to try to get some control on our outside vet costs. Mr. Austin agreed that it has been made clear to the candidate that they will likely be called upon by the County Board to have the state statute roll of Administrator but it's awkward to make that assumption. If the board chooses the transition could be made rapidly, but doing this today is the first step.

Noting no other discussion, Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breeden, Donley, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. The vote being twenty (20) ayes noting four (4) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

Mr. Hammerand said that he inadvertently did not pull off item #15.2 B9, Appointment of Judges of Election. He voted yes on the Routine Consent Agenda, however he wishes to be removed from the vote on this item because his wife is an election judge. He said there was conversation with the State's Attorney's office and he should have asked to abstain from the vote on this item. It is noted here that Mr. Hammerand asked to Abstain from voting on item #15.2 B9; and voted yes on the balance of the Consent Agenda.

ORDINANCES

For Review: *Ordinance amending Ordinance No. O-200006-10-51 Establishing Groundwater Monitoring and Protection at earth materials extraction sites*

Ms. Donner put this ordinance up for 30-day review. Any questions or comments let the Planning & Development Committee know.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Austin thanked those that participated in the Valley Hi Operating Board's first meeting, it went very well. They will be meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., except for August which will be on the fourth Wednesday, August 25th.

Mr. Austin said at staff level they are working on budget preparations and meeting with people. They are planning on updating the full board at the August morning meeting as to where we are at this point in the fiscal year and also take a look at our revenue projections. He was at a National Association of Counties Conference and it puts things in perspective as to what other counties are going through during this difficult economic time and we are very fortunate. He said if you get a chance go to the NACO website as they have redone their website and it's a good tool. Finally, Mr. Austin said that the EDC President will be addressing the board at the August morning meeting.

Ms. Salgado asked if the Valley Hi Operating Board could be put on the County Board calendar. Mr. Austin said they are working with IT and other staff on the calendars. Everything can't be put on one calendar because there are too many meetings, so they're thinking they might have one for County Board things and another for other county related meetings i.e. ZBA etc.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Ms. Wheeler wanted to thank the people who gave the presentation on the ACE Program today and the remarkable work they have done. She noted that the items on the table set up so lovely were purchased from the local Farmer's Market with 99% of the items coming from McHenry County. After the meeting she told members to take farm fresh items home, except the vases, those are P & D's.

Ms. Peschke thanked Ms. Wheeler for the work she does on the ACE Committee and the beautiful presentation. Also, she urged everyone to purchase and read a new book, *The Michael Letters*. It's written by a local person, Jim Peschke, and is sold on Amazon and Kindle and Create Space.

Ms. Barnes said the Underage Drinking Task Force met for the second time this past Monday. She complimented the Chairman on running a very smooth, effective and efficient meeting. They have a group of diverse and dedicated volunteers already and she thinks this has great potential. Chairman Koehler said he was at a great task force meeting in Lake County a week ago and it's amazing what they've done in a two year period. They are presenting at the National Convention that is taking place in California in August. The Chairman said we will be picking a date in September where they will discuss strategic planning to see who all wants to be involved and ultimately set the goals they would like to see happen. At that point they will become a formally formed organization and will be able to present to the board the vision that they have.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Koehler said there was a need to go into executive session to discuss collective negotiating matters. Ms. Salgado made a motion seconded by Ms. Peschke to go into executive session.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breeden, Donley, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. The vote being twenty (20) ayes noting four (4) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

Ms. Miller made a motion seconded by Mr. Heisler to return to open session.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote. The following members responded aye: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Schuster, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breeden, Donley, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. The vote being twenty (20) ayes noting four (4) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12.1 Resolution authorizing a contract agreement between the Service Employees International Union, Local 73, County Coroner and the County of McHenry

Mr. Munaretto made a motion seconded by Ms. Barnes to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Overall the board was in support of the contract being offered.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote noting a yes vote is to impose the contract. The following members responded aye: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Schmidt, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breeden, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Nay: Schuster and Donley. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. The vote being eighteen (18) ayes and two (2) nays noting four (4) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed.

12.2 Resolution authorizing a contract agreement between the Service Employees International Union, Local 73, Division of Veterinary Public Health, and the County of McHenry

Mr. Munaretto made a motion seconded by Ms. Yensen to approve the above-named resolution.

Chairman Koehler asked for any discussion. Overall the board was in support of the contract being offered. Ms. Schmidt did comment that she did have questions if the wages of animal control employees was equitable from the beginning.

Chairman Koehler asked for a roll call vote noting a yes vote is to impose the contract. The following members responded aye: Peschke, Ryan, Salgado, Wheeler, Yensen, Barnes, Bless, Breeden, Donner, Dvorak, Hammerand, Heisler, McCann, Merkel, Miller, Munaretto and Koehler. Nay: Schmidt, Schuster and Donley. Absent: Draffkorn, Hill, Kennedy and Orphal. The vote being seventeen (17) ayes and three (3) nays noting four (4) absent, Chairman Koehler declared the motion to approve has passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Donner made a motion seconded by Ms. McCann to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. Chairman Koehler declared the motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

Dated and approved at Woodstock, Illinois this 3rd day of August, A.D., 2010.

s/ Kenneth D Koehler
Kenneth D Koehler, Chairman
McHenry County Board

ATTEST:

s/ Katherine C Schultz
Katherine C. Schultz, County Clerk